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Ability

A good boss makes his men realize they have more ability than they think they have so that they consistently do better work than they thought they could.

Charles E. Wilson

Ability

Our duty as men is to proceed as if limits to our ability did not exist. We are collaborators in creation.

Pierre Teilhard de Chardin

Ability

To be what we are, and to become what we are capable of becoming, is the only end of life.

Robert Louis Stevenson

Ability

A genius can't be forced; nor can you make an ape an alderman.

Thomas Somerville

Ability

A man may be so much of everything that he is nothing of anything.

Samuel Johnson

Ability

A pint can't hold a quart—if it holds a pint it is doing all that can be expected of it.

Margaretta W. Deland

Ability

A traveller at Sparta, standing long upon one leg, said to a Lacedaemonian, "I do not believe you can do as much." "True," said he, "but every goose can."

Plutarch

Ability

Ability doth hit the mark where presumption over-shooteth and diffidence falleth short.

Nicholas Cusa

Ability

Ability involves responsibility; power, to its last particle, is duty.

Ian McLaren

Ability

Ability is a poor man's wealth.

M. Wren

Ability

An able man shows his spirit by gentle words and resolute actions. He is neither hot nor timid.

Earl of Chesterfield

Ability

As we advance in life, we learn the limit of our abilities.

Froude

Ability

Every person is responsible for all the good within the scope of his abilities, and for no more, and none can tell whose sphere is the largest.

Gail Hamilton

Ability

From each according to his abilities, to each according to his needs.

Karl Marx

Ability

It is no disgrace not to be able to do everything; but to undertake or pretend to do what you are not made for, is not only shameful, but extremely troublesome and vexatious.

Plutarch

Ability

Men are often capable of greater things than they perform.—They are sent into the world with bills of credit, and seldom draw to their full extent.

Horace Walpole

Ability

Men take only their needs into consideration—never their abilities.

Napoleon Bonaparte

Ability

Native ability without education is like a tree without fruit.

Aristippus

Ability

Natural abilities are like natural plants that need pruning by study.

Francis Bacon

Ability

Natural abilities can almost compensate for the want of every kind of cultivation, but no cultivation of the mind can make up for the want of natural abilities.

Schopenhauer

Ability

Natural ability without education has more often raised a man to glory and virtue than education without natural ability.

Cicero

Ability

No man's abilities are so remarkably shining as not to stand in need of a proper opportunity, a patron, and even the praises of a friend to recommend them to the notice of the world.

Pliny

Ability

The abilities of man must fall short on one side or the other, like too scanty a blanket when you are abed.—If you pull it upon your shoulders, your feet are left bare; if you thrust it down to your feet, your shoulders are uncovered.

Sir William Temple

Ability

The ablest men in all walks of modern life are men of faith. Most of them have much more faith than they themselves realize.

Bruce Barton

Ability

The art of being able to make a good use of moderate abilities wins esteem, and often confers more reputation than greater real merit.

Rochefoucauld

Ability

The force of his own merit makes his way—a gift that heaven gives for him.

Shakespeare

Ability

The height of ability consists in a thorough knowledge of the real value of things, and of the genius of the age in which we live.

Rochefoucauld

Ability

The question "Who ought to be boss?" is like asking "Who ought to be the tenor in the quartet?" Obviously, the man who can sing tenor.

Henry Ford

Ability

The winds and waves are always on the side of the ablest navigators.

Gibbon

Ability

There is something that is much more scarce, something finer far, something rarer than ability. It is the ability to recognize ability.

Elbert Hubbard

Ability

There may be luck in getting a good job—but there's no luck in keeping it.

J. Ogden Armour

Ability

To know how to hide one's ability is great skill.

Rochefoucauld

Ability

We are often able because we think we are able.

J. Hawes

Ability

We should be on our guard against the temptation to argue directly from skill to capacity, and to assume when a man displays skill in some feat, his capacity is therefore considerable.

Tom H. Pear

Ability

Who does the best his circumstance allows, does well, acts nobly, angels could no more.

Young

Ability

Without the assistance of natural capacity, rules and precepts are of no efficacy.

Quintilian

Abraham Lincoln

And when he fell in whirlwind, he went down

As when a lordly cedar, green with boughs,

Goes down with a great shout upon the hills,

And leaves a lonesome place against the sky.

Edwin Markham,

"Lincoln, the Man of the People," stanza 4,

lines 8-11, Lincoln & Other Poems, p. 3 (1901).

Abraham Lincoln

In this temple

As in the hearts of the people

For whom he saved the Union

The memory of Abraham

Lincoln

Is enshrined forever

Royal Cortissoz,

inscription above the statue of Lincoln at the

Lincoln Memorial, Washington, D.C.

—The Washington Star, April 20, 1976, pp. D1-D2.

Cortissoz was art critic of the New York Herald Tribune.

Abraham Lincoln

No man made great by death offers more hope to lowly pride than does Abraham Lincoln; for while living he was himself so simple as often to be dubbed a fool. Foolish he was, they said, in losing his youthful heart to a grave and living his life on married patience; foolish in pitting his homely ignorance against Douglas, brilliant, courtly, and urbane; foolish in setting himself to do the right in a world where the day goes mostly to the strong; foolish in dreaming of freedom for a long-suffering folk whom the North is as anxious to keep out as the South was to keep down; foolish in choosing the silent Grant to lead to victory the hesitant armies of the North; foolish, finally, in presuming that government for the people must be government of the people and by the people.

Foolish many said; foolish many, many believed.

This Lincoln, whom so many living friends and foes alike deemed foolish, hid his bitterness in laughter; fed his sympathy on solitude; and met recurring disaster with whimsicality to muffle the murmur of a bleeding heart. Out of the tragic sense of life he pitied where others blamed; bowed his own shoulders with the woes of the weak; endured humanely his little day of chance power; and won through death what life disdains to bestow upon such simple souls—lasting peace and everlasting glory.

How prudently—to echo Wendell Phillips—we proud men compete for nameless graves, while now and then some starveling of Fate forgets himself into immortality.

Thomas Vernor Smith,

memorial address, the Illinois State Senate, February 12, 1935, the 126th anniversary of Lincoln's birth.—Smith, Lincoln, Living Legend, pp. 3-5 (1940).

Smith later served in Congress 1939-1941. The striking final paragraph is unverified in the works of Wendell Phillips.

Abraham Lincoln

Not often in the story of mankind does a man arrive on earth who is both steel and velvet, who is as hard as rock and soft as drifting fog, who holds in his heart and mind the paradox of terrible storm and peace unspeakable and perfect.

Carl Sandburg,

Opening sentence in an address to a joint session of Congress marking the 150th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birth, February 12, 1959, Congressional Record, vol. 105, p. 2265.

Absence

Absence extinguishes small passions and increases great ones, as the wind will blow out a candle, and blow in a fire.

Duc de la Rochefoucauld

Absence

Absence from those we love is self from self—a deadly banishment.

Shakespeare

Absence

Absence in love is like water upon fire; a little quickens, but much extinguishes it.

Hannah More

Absence

Absence, like death, sets a seal on the image of those we love: we cannot realize the intervening changes which time may have effected.

Goldsmith

Absence

As the presence of those we love is as a double life, so absence, in its anxious longing and sense of vacancy, is as a foretaste of death.

Anna Jameson

Absence

Distance of time and place funereally cure what they seem to aggravate; and taking leave of our friends resembles taking leave of the world, of which it has been said that it is not death, but dying, which is terrible.

Fielding

Absence

Love reckons hours for months, and days for years; and every little absence is an age.

Dryden

Absence

Short absence quickens love; long absence kills it.

Mirabeau

Absence

The absent are like children, helpless to defend themselves.

Charles Reade

Absence

The absent are never without fault, nor the present without excuses.

Benjamin Franklin

Absence

The joy of meeting pays the pangs of absence; else who could bear it?

Rowe

Absence

Wives in their husbands' absences grow subtle, and daughters sometimes run off with the butler.

Byron

Abstinence

Abstinence is whereby a man refraineth from anything which he may lawfully claim.

Eliot

Abstinence

Against diseases the strongest fence is the defensive virtue, abstinence.

Herrick

Abstinence

Always rise from the table with an appetite, and you will never sit down without one.

Penn

Abstinence

It is continued temperance which sustains the body for the longest period of time, and which most surely preserves it free from sickness.

Karl W. Humboldt

Abstinence

Refrain tonight, and that shall lend a hand of easiness to the next abstinence; the next more easy; for use can almost change the stamp of nature, and either curb the devil, or throw him out with wondrous potency.

Shakespeare

Abstinence

The stomach begs and clamors, and listens to no precepts. And yet it is not an obdurate creditor; for it is dismissed with small payment if you give it only what you owe, and not as much as you can.

Seneca

Abstinence

The whole duty of man is embraced in the two principles of abstinence and patience: temperance in prosperity, and patient courage in adversity

Seneca

Abstinence

To set the mind above the appetites is the end of abstinence, which if not a virtue, is the groundwork of a virtue.

Johnson

Absurdities

The absurd is only too necessary on earth. The world stands on absurdities.

Fyodor Dostoyevski (1821-1881)

The Brothers Karamazov (1880)

Absurdities

The privilege of absurdity; to which no living creature is subject but man only.

Thomas Hobbes

Leviathan, I, 5

Absurdities

There is nothing so absurd or ridiculous that has not at some time been said by some philosopher. Fontenelle says he would undertake to persuade the whole public of readers to believe that the sun was neither the cause of light or heat, if he could only get six philosophers on his side.

Goldsmith

Absurdities

To pardon those absurdities in ourselves which we condemn in others, is neither better nor worse than to be more willing to be fools ourselves than to have others so.

Pope

Abuse

Abuse is often of service. There is nothing so dangerous to an author as silence. His name, like the shuttlecock, must be beat backward and forward, or it falls to the ground.

Johnson

Abuse

Abuse me as much as you will; it is often a benefit rather than an injury.

E. Nott

Abuse

Abuse of any one generally shows that he has marked traits of character. The stupid and indifferent are passed by in silence.

Tyron Edwards

Abuse

Cato, being scurrilously treated by a low and vicious fellow, quietly said to him, "A contest between us is very unequal, for thou canst bear ill language with ease, and return it with pleasure; but to me it is unusual to hear, and disagreeable to speak it." There are none more abusive to others than they that lie most open to it themselves; but the humor goes round, and he that laughs at me today will have somebody to laugh at him tomorrow.

Seneca

Abuse

I never yet heard man or woman much abused that I was not inclined to think the better of them, and to transfer the suspicion or dislike to the one who found pleasure in pointing out the defects of another.

Jane Porter

Abuse

It is not he who gives abuse that affronts, but the view that we take of it as insulting; so that when one provokes you it is your own opinion which is provoking.

Epictetus

Abuse

It is the policy of sin to hate those we have abused.

Davenant

Abuse

The difference between coarse and refined abuse is the difference between being bruised by a club and wounded by a poisoned arrow.

Johnson

Abuse

The greater the powers, the more dangerous the abuse.

Edmund Burke

Speech, Middlesex election, 1771.

Abuse

When certain persons abuse us let us ask what kind of characters it is they admire. We shall often find this a most consolatory question.

Colton

Abyss Of Self

At the bottom of the modern man there is always a great thirst for self-forgetfulness, self-distraction…and therefore he turns away from all those problems and abysses which might recall to him his own nothingness.

Henri Frederic Amiel

Abyss Of Self

How many people eat, drink, and get married; buy, sell, and build; make contracts and attend to their fortune; have friends and enemies, pleasures and pains, are born, grow up, live and die—but asleep!

Joseph Joubert

Abyss Of Self

How vain it is to sit down to write when you have not stood up to live!

Henry David Thoreau

Abyss Of Self

I know well what I am fleeing from but not what I am in search of.

Michel de Montaigne

Abyss Of Self

In his private heart no man much respects himself.

Mark Twain

Abyss Of Self

O wad some power the giftie gie us

To see oursel's as others see us.

Robert Burns

Abyss Of Self

Only the shallow know themselves.

Oscar Wilde

Abyss Of Self

There are many people who have the gift, or failing, of never understanding themselves. I have been unlucky enough, or perhaps fortunate enough to have received the opposite gift.

Charles de Talleyrand

Accident

Nothing is or can be accidental with God.

Longfellow

Accident

What men call accident is the doing of God's providence.

Gamaliel Bailey

Accident

What reason, like the careful ant, draws laboriously together, the wind of accident sometimes collects in a moment.

Schiller

Accomplishment

A man can do more than he thinks he can, but usually less than he thinks he does.

Author Unknown

Accomplishment

Accomplishment is easiest when we work the hardest, and it is hardest when we work the easiest.

Author Unknown

Accomplishment

All great things are only a number of small things that have carefully been collected together.

Author Unknown

Accomplishment

An object in possession seldom retains the same charm that it had in pursuit.

Pliny the Younger

Letters, II, 15

Accomplishment

Do not think that what is hard for thee to master is impossible for man; but if a thing is possible and proper to man, deem it attainable by thee.

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

Meditations, VI, 19

Accomplishment

Nothing can be made of nothing; he who has laid up no material can produce no combinations.

Sir Joshua Reynolds

Accomplishment

The greatest pleasure in life is doing what people say you cannot do.

Walter Bagehot

Accomplishment

The reward of a thing well done, is to have done it.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Accomplishment

There is no limit to what can be accomplished if it doesn't matter who gets the credit.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Accomplishment

What you cannot as you would achieve,

You must perforce accomplish as you may.

William Shakespeare

Titus Andronicus, II, I, 106

Accumulation

If you add only a little to a little and do this often, soon that little will become great.

Hesiod

Works and Days

Accuracy

Accuracy is the twin brother of honesty; inaccuracy, of dishonesty.

C. Simmons

Accuracy

Accuracy of statement is one of the first elements of truth; inaccuracy is a near kin to falsehood.

Tyron Edwards

Achievement

He had talents equal to business, and aspired no higher.

Caius Cornelius Tacitus

Annals, VI, 39

Achievement

No human thing is of serious importance.

Plato

The Republic, X, 604-C

Achievement

Practice yourself, for heaven's sake, in little things; and thence proceed to greater.

Epictetus

Discourses, I, 18

Achievement

THE ART OF ACHIEVEMENT

YOU hold in your hand the camel's hair brush of a painter of Life. You stand before the vast white canvas of Time. The paints are your thoughts, emotions and acts.

YOU select the colors of your thoughts; drab or bright, weak or strong, good or bad.

YOU select the colors of your emotions; discordant or harmonious, harsh or quiet, weak or strong.

YOU select the colors of your acts: cold or warm, fearful or daring, small or big.

Through the power of your creative imagination you catch a vision…you dream a dream.

YOU visualize yourself as the man you want to be.

YOU see yourself as a builder, making a creative contribution to the evolution of modern civilization.

YOU strive to make the ideal in your mind become a reality on the canvas of Time.

YOU select and mix the positive colors of heart, mind and spirit into the qualities of effective living: patience, determination, endurance, self-discipline, work, love and faith.

Each moment of your life is a brush stroke in the painting of your growing career.

THERE are the bold, sweeping strokes of one increasing, dynamic purpose.

THERE are the lights and shadows that make your life deep and strong.

THERE are the little touches that add the stamp of character and worth.

The art of achievement is the art of making life…your life…a masterpiece.

Wilfred A. Peterson

Achievement

The greater the difficulty the more glory in surmounting it. Skillful pilots gain their reputation from storms and tempests.

Epicurus

Achievement

Where the willingness is great, the difficulties cannot be great.

Niccolo Machiavelli

The Prince, ch. 26

Achievement

Whoever tries for great objects must suffer something.

Plutarch

Lives

Achievement

You'll get no laurel crown for outrunning a burro.

Martial [Marcus Valerius Martialis]

Epigrams, XII, 36

Acquaintance

I love the acquaintance of young people, because, in the first place, I don't like to think myself growing old. In the next place, young acquaintances must last longest, if they do last; and then young men have more generous sentiments in every respect.

Johnson

Acquaintance

If a man is worth knowing at all, he is worth knowing well.

Alexander Smith

Acquaintance

It is expedient to have acquaintance with those who have looked into the world, who know men, understand business, and can give you good intelligence and good advice when they are wanted.

George Horne

Acquaintance

It is good discretion not make too much of any man at the first; because one cannot hold out that proportion.

Bacon

Acquaintance

Never say you know a man till you have divided an inheritance with him.

Lavater

Acquaintance

Three days of uninterrupted company in a vehicle will make you better acquainted with another, than one hour's conversation with him every day for three years.

Lavater

Acquirement

An unjust acquisition is like a barbed arrow, which must be drawn backward with horrible anguish, or else will be your destruction.

Jeremy Taylor

Acquirement

Every noble acquisition is attended with its risks; he who fears to encounter the one must not expect to obtain the other.

Metastasio

Acquirement

That which we acquire with most difficulty we retain the longest; as those who have earned a fortune are commonly more careful of it than those by whom it may have been inherited.

Colton

Acts/Action

When our actions do not,

Our fears do make us traitors.

William Shakespeare

Macbeth, IV, ii, 3

Acts/Action

A committee of one gets things done.

Joe Ryan

Acts/Action

A good action is never lost, it is a treasure laid up and guarded for the doer's need.

Pedro Calderon

Acts/Action

A good deed is never lost. He who sows courtesy, reaps friendship; he who plants kindness, gathers love; pleasure bestowed upon a grateful mind was never sterile, but generally gratitude begets reward.

Basil

Acts/Action

A holy act strengthens the inward holiness.

F. W. Robertson

Acts/Action

A horse can't pull while kicking,

This fact I merely mention;

And he can't kick while pulling,

Which is my chief contention.

Let's imitate the good old horse

And lead a life that's fitting.

Just pull an honest load and then

There'll be no time for kicking.

Author Unknown

Acts/Action

A journey of a thousand miles must begin with a single step.

Lao Tse

Acts/Action

A man who waits to believe in action before acting is anything you like, but he's not a man of action. It is as if a tennis player before returning a ball stopped to think about his views of the physical and mental advantages of tennis. You must act as you breathe.

Georges Clemenceau, conversation with Jean Martet, December 18, 1927.—Clemenceau, The Events of His Life as Told by Himself to His Former Secretary, Jean Martet, trans. Milton Waldman, chapter 11, p. 67 (1930).

Acts/Action

A right act strikes a chord that extends through the whole universe, touches all moral intelligence, visits every world, vibrates along its whole extent, and conveys its vibrations to the very bosom of God!

T. Binney

Acts/Action

A rolling stone gathers no moss.

Publilius Syrus

Acts/Action

Action is eloquence; the eyers of the ignorant are more learned than their ears.

Shakespeare

Acts/Action

Action may not always bring happiness; but there is no happiness without action.

Disraeli

Acts/Action

Actions are ours; their consequences being to heaven.

Sir P. Francis

Acts/Action

Actions speak louder than words.

Author Unknown

Acts/Action

Active natures are rarely melancholy.—Active and sadness are incompatible.

Bovee

Acts/Action

Activity is God's medicine; the highest genius is willingness and ability to do hard work. Any other conception of genius makes is a doubtful, if not a dangerous possession.

R. S. MacArthur

Acts/Action

All our actions take their hue from the complexion of the heart, as landscapes do their variety from light.

W. T. Bacon

Acts/Action

All people have a moral obligation to act intelligently to cultivate a higher devotion to truth.

Author Unknown

Acts/Action

All that is required for the triumph of tyranny is for enough men to do nothing.

Edmund Burke

Acts/Action

All the means of action the shapeless masses the materials lie everywhere about us; what we need is the celestial fire to change the flint into transparent crystal, bright and clear.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Acts/Action

And, he gave it for his Opinion; that whoever could make two ears of corn, or two blades of grass to grow upon a spot of ground where only one grew before; would deserve better of Mankind, and do more essential service to his country, than the whole race of politicians put together.

Jonathan Swift,

"A Voyage to Brobdingnag,"

Gulliver's travels, part 2, pp. 119-20,

in The Prose Works of Jonathan Swift, ed.

Herbert Davis, vol. 11 (1941).

Acts/Action

Attack is the reaction; I never think I have hit hard unless it rebounds.

Dr. Samuel Johnson

Acts/Action

Babe Ruth had 714 home runs, but struck out 1330 times.

Author Unknown

Acts/Action

Bad luck is in nine cases out of ten, the result of putting pleasure first and duty second, instead of duty first and pleasure second.

J. J. Munger

Acts/Action

Be great in act, as you have been in thought.—Suit the action to the word and the word to the action.

Shakespeare

Acts/Action

Be not the first by whom the new are tried, nor yet the last to lay the old aside.

Alexander Pope

Acts/Action

Be twice as much in half the time.

Author Unknown

Acts/Action

Bullfight critics row on row

Crowd the vast arena full

But only one man's there who knows

And he's the man who fights the bull.

Author unknown.

These lines were quoted in a letter to the editor by

Representative F. Edward Hébert, chairman of the House Committee on Armed Services, who said, "President Kennedy was fond of quoting some lines from the Spanish poet Garcia Lorca.—The Washington Post, April 11, 1971, p. C7.

These lines are believed not to be Garcia Lorca's.

Acts/Action

Come! Let us lay a lance in rest,

And tilt at windmills under a wild sky!

For who would live so petty and unblest

That dare not tilt at something ere he die;

Bather than, screened by safe majority,

Preserve his little life to little end,

And never raise a rebel cry!

John Galsworthy, "Errantry," stanza 1, The Collected Poems of John Galsworthy, p. 1 (1934).

Acts/Action

Deliberate with caution, but act with decision; and yield with graciousness, or oppose with firmness.

Colton

Acts/Action

Do not let your deeds belie your words, lest when you speak in church someone may say to himself, "Why do you not practice what you preach?"

St. Jerome

Letter, 48

Acts/Action

Do the thing and you shall have the power. They who do not the thing have not the power.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Acts/Action

Do your best every minute—you never know when someone is taking your measure for a better position.

Author Unknown

Acts/Action

Doing is the great thing. For if, resolutely, people do what is right, in time they come to like doing it.

Ruskin

Acts/Action

Don't be too critical of a mistake. It is evidence that at least somebody tried to do something.

Author Unknown

Acts/Action

Every action of our lives touches on some chord that will vibrate in eternity.

E. H. Chapin

Acts/Action

Every body continues in its state of rest, or of uniform motion in a right line, unless it is compelled to change that state by forces impressed upon it.

Sir Isaac Newton

Acts/Action

Every man feels instinctively that all the beautiful sentiments in the world weigh less than a single lovely action.

James Russell Lowell

Acts/Action

Every man has enough power left to carry out that of which he is convinced.

Goethe

Acts/Action

Every man over forty is responsible for his face.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Acts/Action

Every noble activity makes room for itself.

Emerson

Acts/Action

Existence was given us for action. Our worth is determined by the good deeds we do, rather than by the fine emotions we feel.

E. L. Magoon

Acts/Action

Good thoughts, though God accept them, yet toward men are little better than good dreams except they be put in action.

Bacon

Acts/Action

Great actions are not always true sons

Of great and mighty resolutions.

Samuel Butler

Hudibras, I, I, 885

Acts/Action

Great actions, the lustre of which dazzles us, are represented by politicians as the effects of deep design; whereas they are commonly the effects of caprice and passion. Thus the war between Augustus and Antony, supposed to be owing to their ambition to give a master to the world, arose probably from jealousy.

Rochefoucauld

Acts/Action

He does it with a better grace, but I do it more natural.

William Shakespeare

Twelfth-Night, II, iii, 91

Acts/Action

He that governeth himself is greater than he that taketh a city.

Author Unknown

Acts/Action

He who is firm and resolute in will molds the world to himself.

Goethe

Acts/Action

Heaven never helps the man who will not act.

Sophocles

Acts/Action

Hindsight is an exact science.

Guy Bellamy

Acts/Action

How did a fool and his money get together in the first place?

Kearney, Nebraska Hub

Acts/Action

I abhor those cold calculating people who in order to say no wrong, say nothing at all. And cold people who in order to do no wrong, do nothing at all.

Henry Ward Beecher

Acts/Action

I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. What I can do, I ought to do, and what I ought to do, by the Grace of God, I will do.

Author Unknown

Acts/Action

I do not believe in a fate that falls on men however they act; but I do believe in a fate that falls on them unless they act.

G. K. Chesterton, Generally Speaking, chapter 20, p. 137 (1929).

Acts/Action

I find the great thing in this world is not so much where we stand, as in what direction we are moving: To reach the port of heaven, we must sail sometimes with the wind and sometimes against it—but we must sail, and not drift, nor lie at anchor.

Oliver Wendell Holmes, The Autocrat of the Breakfast-Table, p. 93 (1891).

Josephus Daniels, ambassador to Mexico, sent this quotation to President Franklin D. Roosevelt, January 1, 1936, in a note of New Year greetings, with this comment: "Here is an expression from Holmes which, if it has missed you, is so good you may find a use for it in one of your 'Fireside' talks."—Roosevelt and Daniels, ed. Carroll Kilpatrick, p. 159 (1952).

Acts/Action

I have never heard anything about the resolutions of the apostles, but a great deal about their acts.

Horace Mann

Acts/Action

I will not steep my speech in lies; the test of any man lies in action.

Pindar

Olympian Odes IV, 27

Acts/Action

If at first you don't succeed, you're running about average. DON'T QUIT.

Author Unknown

Acts/Action

If you have no friends to share or rejoice in your success in life—if you can not look back to those to whom you owe gratitude, or forward to those to whom you ought to afford protection, still it is no less incumbent on you to move steadily in the path of duty: for your active exertions are due not only to society; but in humble gratitude to the Being who made you a member of it, with powers to serve yourself and others.

Walter Scott

Acts/Action

If you would not be forgotten, either write things worth reading or do things worth writing.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Acts/Action

If your sword's too short, add to its length by taking one step forward.

Author Unknown

Acts/Action

In activity we must find our joy as well as glory; and labor, like everything else that is good, is its own reward.

E. P. Whipple

Acts/Action

In all exigencies or miseries, lamentation becomes fools, and action wise folk.

Sir P. Sidney

Acts/Action

In Germany, they first came for the Communists, but I didn't speak up because I wasn't a Communist. Then they came for the Jews, but I didn't speak up because I wasn't a Jew. Then they came for the trade unionist, but I didn't speak up because I wasn't a trade unionist. Then they came for the Catholics, but I didn't speak up because I wasn't a Catholic. Then they came for the Protestants, but I didn't speak up because I wasn't a Protestant. Then they came for me, and by that time no one was left to speak up.

Fritz Moller

Acts/Action

In this world a man must be either anvil or hammer.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Acts/Action

Iron rusts from disuse, stagnant water loses its purity, and in cold weather becomes frozen; even so does inaction sap the vigors of the mind.

Leonardo da Vinci

Acts/Action

It doesn't do any good to sit up and take notice if you just keep sitting.

Author Unknown

Acts/Action

It is better to wear out than rust out.

Richard Cumberland

Acts/Action

It is circumstance and proper timing that give an action its character and make it either good or bad.

Agesilaus

From Plutarch, Lives, Agesilaus, 36

Acts/Action

It is following the line of least resistance that makes men and rivers crooked.

Author Unknown

Acts/Action

It is from numberless diverse acts of courage and belief that human history is shaped. Each time a man stands up for an ideal, or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope, and crossing each other from a million different centers of energy and daring those ripples build a current which can sweep down the mightiest walls of oppression and resistance.

Senator Robert F. Kennedy, "Day of Affirmation," address at the University of Capetown, South Africa, June 6, 1966.—Congressional Record, vol. 112, June 6, 1966, p. 12430.

This quotation is an inscription on the Robert F. Kennedy gravesite at Arlington National Cemetery.

Acts/Action

It is impossible to come back from a place you've never been. It's also impossible to jump across a chasm in two jumps.

Author Unknown

Acts/Action

It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, and comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat.

Theodore Roosevelt, address at the Sorbonne, Paris, France, April 23, 1910.—"Citizenship in a Republic," The Strenuous Life (vol. 13 of The Works of Theodore Roosevelt, national ed.), chapter 21, p. 510 (1926).

Acts/Action

It is not what we do, but also what we do not do, for which we are accountable.

Jean-Baptiste Molière

Acts/Action

It is vain to expect any advantage from our profession of the truth if we be not sincerely just and honest in our actions.

Sharpe

Acts/Action

It isn't so much what happens to us that matters but what we do about it.

Author Unknown

Acts/Action

It may make a difference for all eternity whether we do right or wrong today.

James Freeman Clarke

Acts/Action

Judge a man by what he finishes, not by what he begins.

Author Unknown

Acts/Action

Lay up your treasures in heaven where there is no depreciation.

Author Unknown

Acts/Action

Let not the fruit of action be thy motive,

Nor be thy attachment to inaction.

Bhagavad Gita

Gita, 2, 47

Acts/Action

Let us develop the resources of our land, call forth its powers, build up its institutions, promote all its great interests, and see whether we also, in our day and generation, may not perform something worthy to be remembered.

Representative Daniel Webster, address at the laying of the cornerstone of the Bunker Hill Monument, Charlestown, Massachusetts, June 17, 1825.—The Writings and Speeches of Daniel Webster vol. 1, p. 254 (1903).

These words are also incised in marble on the wall of the U.S. House of Representatives chamber, directly behind the Speaker's chain The word "develop" is spelled there with a final "e."

Acts/Action

Let us have no myths of divine action.

Epicurus (341-270 B.C.)

Letter to Menoeceus

Acts/Action

Life though a short, is a working day.—Activity may lead to evil; but inactivity cannot be led to good.

Hannah More

Acts/Action

Life was not given for indolent contemplation and study of self, nor for brooding over emotions of piety: actions and actions only determine the worth.

Fichte

Acts/Action

Life, in all ranks and situations, is an outward occupation, an actual and active work.

Karl W. Humboldt

Acts/Action

Little strokes fell great oaks.

Benjamin Franklin

Acts/Action

Look round the habitable world, how few

Know their own good, or, knowing it, pursue!

Benjamin Franklin

Acts/Action

Many men build as cathedrals were built, the part nearest the ground finished; but the parts which soar toward heaven, the turrets and spires, forever incomplete.

Henry Ward Beecher

Acts/Action

Mark this well, ye proud men of action—ye are, after all, nothing but unconscious instruments of the men of thought.

Heine

Acts/Action

Men commonly think according to their inclinations, speak according to their learning and imbibed opinions, but generally according to custom.

Francis Bacon

Essays. Of Custom.

Acts/Action

Never leave that till to-morrow which you can do to-day.

Benjamin Franklin

Acts/Action

No sooner said than done—so acts your man of worth.

Quintus Ennius

Annals, bk. 9 (quoted by Priscianus)

Acts/Action

Nothing ever happens but once in this world. What I do now I do once for all. It is over and gone, with all its eternity of solemn meaning.

Carlyle

Acts/Action

Nothing, says Goethe, is so terrible as activity without insight.—Look before you leap is a maxim for the world.

E. P. Whipple

Acts/Action

O Lord, point me right for thou knowest if I get started moving wrong, thou thyself could not change me.

Scottish Prayer

Acts/Action

One man of tolerable abilities may work great changes, and accomplish great affairs among mankind if he first forms a good plan and, cutting off all amusements or other employments that would divert his attention, makes the execution of that same plan his sole study and business.

Benjamin Franklin

Acts/Action

One may know the world without going out of doors.

The further one goes, the less one knows.

Therefore the sage knows without going about,

Understands without seeing,

And accomplishes without any action.

Lao Tzu

The Way of Lao Tzu 47

Acts/Action

One must not always think so much about what one should do, but rather what one should be. Our works do not ennoble us; but we must ennoble our works.

Meister Eckhart

Work and Being

Acts/Action

One today is worth two tomorrows; Have you something to do tomorrow, do it today.

Benjamin Franklin

Acts/Action

Only a mediocre person is always at his best.

W. Somerset Maugham

Acts/Action

Only actions give to life its strength, as only moderation gives it its charm.

Richter

Acts/Action

Only the actions of the just smell sweet and blossom in the dust.

Shirley

Acts/Action

Our grand business is not to see what lies dimly at a distance, but to do what lies clearly at hand.

Carlyle

Acts/Action

Remember you have not a sinew whose law of strength is not action; not a faculty of body, mind or soul, whose law of improvement is not energy.

E. B. Hall

Acts/Action

Resolved, never to do anything which I should be afraid to do if it were the last hour of my life.

Jonathan Edwards

Acts/Action

Some gardeners flail recklessly at the weeds' offending shoots, while others dig at its roots.

Lynn Pearson

Acts/Action

Speech is the image of actions.

Solon

From Diogenes Laertius, bd, I, sec 58

Acts/Action

Tao invariably takes no action,

and yet there is nothing left undone.

Reversion is the action of Tao.

Weakness is the function of Tao.

All things in the world come from being.

And being comes from non-being.

Lao Tzu

The Way of Lao Tzu 40

Acts/Action

That action is not warrantable which either fears to ask the divine blessing on its performance, or having succeeded, does not come with thanksgiving to God for its success.

Quarles

Acts/Action

The actions of men are like the index of a book; they point out what is most remarkable in them.

Happiness is in action, and every power is intended for action; human happiness, therefore, can only be complete as all the powers have their full and legitimate play.

David Thomas

Acts/Action

The acts of this life are the destiny of the next.

Eastern Proverb

Acts/Action

The cautious seldom err.

Confucius

Acts/Action

The firefly only shines when on the wing; so it is with the mind; when we rest we darken.

Gamaliel Bailey

Acts/Action

The flighty purpose never is o'ertook unless the deed go with it.

Shakespeare

Acts/Action

The Golden Rule is of no use whatever unless you realize it's your move.

Quoted by Leo Aikman

Acts/Action

The man who has done his best has done everything. The man who has done less than his best has done nothing.

Author Unknown

Acts/Action

The more we do, the more we can do; the more busy we are, the more leisure we have.

Hazlitt

Acts/Action

The point I wish to make is this: [President William] McKinley gave Rowan a letter to be delivered to Garcia; Rowan took the letter & did not ask, "Where is he at?" By the Eternal! there is a man whose form should be cast in deathless bronze & the statue placed in every college of the land. It is not book-learning young men need, nor instruction about this and that, but a stiffening of the vertebrae which will cause them to be loyal to a trust, to act promptly, concentrate their energies: do the thing—"Carry a message to Garcia!"

Elbert Hubbard, "A Message to Garcia," originally published without title in Hubbard's magazine, The Philistine, March 1899, p. 110, and later widely reprinted and distributed.

The message "asked the Cuban insurgent general how much cooperation our army could hope for from his forces in the forthcoming campaign against the Spaniards in Cuba. His reply, with its accompanying plans and military information, was of the greatest information to Major-General Miles. This information Lieutenant Rowan secured and delivered safely to his general at the risk of his life."—R. W. G. Vail, 'A Message to Garcia," A Bibliographical Puzzle, p. 11 (1930).

Acts/Action

The risk of a wrong decision is preferable to the terror of indecision.

Maimonides

Acts/Action

The softest things in the world overcome the hardest things in the world. Non-being penetrates that in which there is no space. Through this I know the advantage of taking no action.

Lao Tzu

The Way of Lao Tzu 43

Acts/Action

The turtle never gets started until he sticks his neck out.

Author Unknown

Acts/Action

The virtuous man follows the Way by spiritual insight; the wise man takes this same approach. But the lovers of landscapes are led into the Way by a sense of form. The virtuous man also takes pleasure in this. Then, are not the pleasures of the virtuous and the wise similar to those of the lovers of landscapes?

Tsung Ping

Introduction to Landscape Painting

Acts/Action

The world is blessed most by men who do things, and not by those who merely talk about them.

James Oliver

Acts/Action

The world is divided into people who do things and people who get the credit. Try if you can, to belong to the first class. There's far less competition.

Dwight Morrow

Acts/Action

There is a proper dignity and proportion to be observed in the performance of every act of life.

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

Meditations, IV, 32

Acts/Action

There is no future in any job. The future lies in the man who holds it.

Author Unknown

Acts/Action

There is nothing so fatal to character as half-finished tasks.

David Lloyd George

Acts/Action

There's a time to wink as well as to see.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Acts/Action

Think that day lost whose slow descending sun views from thy hand no noble action done.

J. Bobart

Acts/Action

This is a world of action, and not for moping and droning in.

Charles Dickens

Acts/Action

Thought and theory must precede all salutary action; yet action is nobler in itself than either thought or theory.

Wordsworth

Acts/Action

Thus in the highest position there is the least freedom of action.

Sallust [Gaius Sallustius Crispus]

The War with Catiline, 51

Acts/Action

To be both a speaker of words and a doer of deeds.

Homer

Acts/Action

To do an evil act is base. To do a good one without incurring danger, is common enough. But it is the part of a good man to do great and noble deeds though he risks everything in doing them.

Plutarch

Acts/Action

To every action there is always opposed an equal reaction: or, the mutual action of two bodies upon each other are always equal, and directed to contrary parts.

Sir Isaac Newton

Acts/Action

To will and not to do when there is opportunity, is in reality not to will; and to love what is good and not to do it, when it is possible, is in reality not to love it.

Swedenborg

Acts/Action

Unless a decision has degenerated into work, it is not a decision at all, it is an intention.

Peter F. Drucker

Acts/Action

Unselfish and noble actions are the most radiant pages in the biography of souls.

David Thomas

Acts/Action

We are face to face with our destiny and we must meet it with a high and resolute courage. For us is the life of action, of strenuous performance of duty; let us live in the harness, striving mightily; let us rather run the risk of wearing out than rusting out.

Theodore Roosevelt, address at the opening of the gubernatorial campaign, New York City, October 5, 1898.—"The Duties of a Great Nation' Campaigns and Controversies" (vol. 14 of The Works of Theodore Roosevelt, national ed.), chapter 45, p. 291 (1926).

Acts/Action

We must be doing something to be happy.—Action is no less necessary to us than thought.

Hazlitt

Acts/Action

We should not be so taken up in the search for truth, as to neglect the needful duties of active life; for it is only action that gives a true value and commendation to virtue.

Cicero

Acts/Action

Well begun is half done.

Aristotle

Acts/Action

What e'er thou art, act well thy part.

William Shakespeare

Acts/Action

What man knows should find expression in what he does.—The chief value of superior knowledge is that it leads to a performing manhood.

Bovee

Acts/Action

When a man asks himself what is meant by action he proves that he isn't a man of action. Action is a lack of balance. In order to act you must be somewhat insane. A reasonably sensible man is satisfied with thinking.

Georges Clemenceau, conversation with Jean Martet, January 1, 1928.—Clemenceau, The Events of His Life as Told by Himself to His Former Secretary, Jean Martet, trans. Milton Waldman, chapter 12, p. 78 (1930).

Acts/Action

When a man has not a good reason for doing a thing, he has one good reason for leaving it alone.

Thomas Scott

Acts/Action

When you can think of yesterday without regret and of tomorrow without fear, you are on the road to success.

Author Unknown

Acts/Action

With a good conscience our only sure reward, with history the final judge of our deeds, let us go forth to lead the land we love, asking His blessing and His help, but knowing that here on earth God's work must truly be our own.

President John F. Kennedy, inaugural address, January 20, 1961.—The Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: John F Kennedy, 1961, p. 3.

This is one of seven inscriptions carved on the walls at the gravesite of John F. Kennedy Arlington National Cemetery.

Acts/Action

You cannot have a proud and chivalrous spirit if your conduct is mean and paltry; for whatever a man's actions are, such must be his spirit.

Demosthenes

Third Olynthiac, 33

Acts/Action

You will be better advised to watch what we do instead of what we say.

John N. Mitchell, U.S. attorney general, remarks (overheard by reporters) in July 1969 after meeting with a group of black civil rights workers, who protested the Administration's action on the Voting Rights Act of 1965.—The Washington Post, "Watch What We Do,' editorial, July 7, 1969, p. A22.

Acts/Action

A man who never made a mistake, never made anything worth a darn.

Author Unknown

Acts/Action

A pound of pluck is worth a ton of luck.

James A. Garfield

Acts/Action

A thousand words leave not the same deep impression as does a single deed.

Henrik Ibsen

Acts/Action

Before water generates steam, it must register 212 of heat; 200 will not do it. The water must boil to generate enough steam to move an engine. Lukewarm water will not run anything. Lukewarmness will not generate life's work.

Author Unknown

Acts/Action

Better that we should err in action than wholly refuse to perform. The storm is so much better than the calm, as it declares the presence of a living principle. Stagnation is something worse than death. It is corruption also.

William Gilmore Sims

Acts/Action

Die when I may, I want it said of me by those who knew me best, that I always plucked a thistle and planted a flower where I thought a flower would grow.

Abraham Lincoln

Acts/Action

Do all the good you can, in all the ways you can, to all the souls you can, in every place you can, at all the times you can, with all the zeal you can, as long as ever you can.

James Wesley

Acts/Action

Every kind and good deed is a press agent for God.

Author Unknown

Acts/Action

Every smallest stroke of virtue or of vice leaves its never so little scar…. Nothing we ever do is in strict scientific literalness wiped out.

William James

Acts/Action

Everywhere in life the true question is not what we gain, but what we do.

Thomas Carlyle

Acts/Action

Great minds, like heaven, are pleased in doing good, though the ungrateful subjects of their favors are barren in return.

Rowe

Acts/Action

He harms himself who does harm to another, and the evil plan is most harmful to the planner.

Hesiod

Acts/Action

He that does good for good's sake seeks neither praise nor reward, but he is sure of both in the end.

William Penn

Acts/Action

He who wants to do a great deal of good at once will never do anything. Life is made up of little things. It is very rarely that an occasion is offered for doing a great deal at once. True greatness consists in being great in little things.

Charles Simmons

Acts/Action

I have been wretched all of my life because I have yearned to be honorable while I have continued to do unworthy things.

Dmitri Karamazov

Acts/Action

I prefer to do right and get no thanks than to do wrong and receive no punishment.

Cato

Acts/Action

If it is not right, do not do it; if is is not true, do not say it.

Marcus Aurelius

Acts/Action

If you would convince a man that he does wrong, do right. Men will believe what they see. Let them see.

Henry David Thoreau

Acts/Action

It doesn't take long for the man with push to pass the man with pull.

Author Unknown

Acts/Action

It is better to have less thunder in the mouth and more lightning in the hand.

Cheyenne Chief

Acts/Action

Many men take the wrong step by standing still.

Author Unknown

Acts/Action

Measure men not by Sunday without regarding what they may do all the week after.

Author Unknown

Acts/Action

Most of us will do anything to become good except change our way of living.

Author Unknown

Acts/Action

Often an entire city has suffered because of an evil man.

Hesiod

Acts/Action

People can be divided into three classes, the few who make things happen, the many who watch things happen, and the overwhelming majority who have no idea what has happened.

Author Unknown

Acts/Action

Sir, my concern is not whether God is on our side, My great concern is to be on God's side, for God is always right.

Abraham Lincoln

Acts/Action

The actions of men are the best interpreters of thought.

Author Unknown

Acts/Action

The end must justify the means.

Matthew Prior

Acts/Action

This is very true: for my words are my own, and my actions are my ministers'.

Charles II

Acts/Action

Vicious actions are not hurtful because they are forbidden, but forbidden because they are hurtful.

Benjamin Franklin

Acts/Action

We are very apt to measure ourselves by our aspiration instead of our performance. But in truth the conduct of our lives is the only proof of the sincerity of our hearts.

Author Unknown

Acts/Action

We can sometimes be fully conscious of the folly of a decision and yet at the very moment be knowingly proceeding to carry it out…

Robert J. McCracken

Acts/Action

We do not count a man's years until he has nothing else to count.

Author Unknown

Acts/Action

We live in deeds; not years; in thoughts; not breaths; in feelings not figures on a dial. We should count time by heart-throbs. He most lives who thinks most; feels the noblest; acts the best.

Philip J. Bailey

Acts/Action

What you do not want done to yourself do not do to others.

Confucius

Acts/Action

When you deplore the conditions in the world, ask yourself, 'Am I part of the problem or part of the solution?

Author Unknown

Acts/Action

You can't plow a field by turning it over in your mind.

Author Unknown

Actors

A young girl must not be taken to the theatre, let us say it once for all. It is not only the drama which is immoral, but the place.

Alex Dumas

Actors

Actors are the only honest hypocrites. Their life is a voluntary dream; and the height of their ambition is to be beside themselves. They wear the livery of other men's fortunes: their very thoughts are not their own.

Hazlitt

Actors

An actor should take lessons from the painter and the sculptor. Not only should he make attitude his study, but he should highly develop his mind by an assiduous study of the best writers, ancient and modern, which will enable him not only to understand his parts, but to communicate a nobler coloring to his manners and mien.

Goethe

Actors

It is with some violence to the imagination that we conceive of an actor belonging to the relations of private life, so closely do we identify these persons in our mind with the characters they assume upon the stage.

Lamb

Actors

The most difficult character in comedy is that of the fool, and he must be no simpleton that plays that part.

Cervantes

Actors

The profession of the player, like that of the painter, is one of the imitative arts, whose means are pleasure, and whose end should be virtue.

Shenstone

Acts/Action

Act well at the moment, and you have performed a good action to all eternity.

Johann Kaspar Lavater

Acts/Action

And thou wilt give thyself relief, if thou doest every act of thy life as if it were the last.

Marcus Aurelius

Acts/Action

By annihilating desires you annihilate the mind. Every man without passions has within him no principle of action, nor motive to act.

Claude Adrien Helvetius

Acts/Action

Mistrust first impulses, they are always good.

Charles de Talleyrand

Acts/Action

To do nothing is in every man's power.

Samuel Johnson

Acts/Action

[Action] is the last resource of those who know not how to dream.

Oscar Wilde

Adaptability

The genius of America is in its ability to make adjustments. That was the condition of conquering a virgin continent…. We are adaptable, and because we are adaptable, we are strong.

David E. Lilienthal

Adaptability

We get our economic services in the way that at the time seems to work best…. We do not start with all the economic or political answers. We make up the answers as we go along…. The fact is that we have hardly an ounce of economic dogmatism in us.

David E. Lilienthal

Address

A man who knows the world will not only make the most of everything he does know; but of many things he does not know; and will gain more credit by his adroit mode of hiding his ignorance, than the pedant by his awkward attempt to exhibit his erudition.

Colton

Address

Address makes opportunities; the want of it gives them.

Bovee

Address

And now, my brothers, you will ask, What in these depending days can be done by us?…. Wherever a man comes, there comes revolution. The old is for slaves. When a man comes, all books are legible, all things transparent, all religions are forms…

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Addresses and Lectures

Address

Brahma once asked of Force, "Who is stronger than you?" She replied, "Address."

Victor Hugo

Address

Conservatism stands on man's confessed limitations; reform on his indisputable infinitude.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Addresses and Lectures

Address

Give a boy address and accomplishments and you give him the mastery of palaces and fortunes where he goes. He has not the trouble of earning to own them: they solicit him to enter and possess.

Emerson

Address

His last address to the members of his Order—"O Mendicants! thoroughly learn and practise and perfect and spread abroad the Law, thought out and revealed by me, in order that this religion of mine (this purity) may last long and be perpetyuated for the good and happiness of the great multitudes, out of pity for the world, to the advantage and prosperity of gods and men…. My age is accomplished, my life is done; leaving you, I depart, having relied on myself alone…. Whosoever shall adhere unweariedly to this Law and Discipline, he shall cross the ocean of life and make an end of sorrow." To his pupil distressed at losing him—"O Ananda! do not weep. Have I not told you that we must part from all we hold most dear and pleasant?…persever and you too shall be quite free from this thirst of life, this chain of ignorance." Work out your salvation with diligence."

Guatama (Buddha)

Rhys Davids

Address

The hour of that choice is the crisis of your history….Be content with a little light, so it be your own. Explore, and explore….Make yourself necessary to the world, and mankind will give you bread.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Addresses and Lectures, "Literary Ethics" (1838)

Address

The tear that is wiped with a little address may be followed, perhaps, by a smile.

Cowper

Address

There is a certain artificial polish and address acquired by mingling in the beau monde, which, in the commerce of the world, supplies the place of natural suavity and good humor; but it is too often purchased at the expense of all original and sterling traits of character.

Washington Irving

Address

We are reformers in spring and summer, in autumn and winter we stand by the old; reformers in the morning, conservers at night. Reform is affirmative, conservatism negative; conservatism goes for comfort, reform for truth.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Addresses and Lectures

Address

Yourself a newborn bard of the Holy Ghost, cast behind you all conformity, and acquaint men at first hand with Deity…. but live with the privilege of the immeasurable mind.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Addresses and Lectures

Admiration

Admiration is a very short-lived passion that decays on growing familiar with its object unless it be still fed with fresh discoveries and kept alive by perpetual miracles rising up to its view.

Addison

Admiration

Admiration is the daughter of ignorance.

Benjamin Franklin

Admiration

Admiration must be kept up by the novelty that at first produce it; and how much soever is given, there must always be the impression that more remains.

Johnson

Admiration

Few men are admired by their servants.

Montaigne

Admiration

Few men have been admired by their own domestics.

Michel Eyquem de Montaigne

Essays, III, 2

Admiration

I'd never try to learn from someone I didn't envy at least a little. If I never envied, I'd never learn.

Betsy Cohen

Admiration

It is a good thing to believe; it is a good thing to admire. By continually looking upwards, our minds will themselves grow upwards; as a man, by indulging in habits of scorn and contempt for others, is sure to descend to the level of these he despises.

It is better in some respects to be admired by those with whom you live, than to be loved by them. And this is not on account of any gratification of vanity, but because admiration is so much more tolerant than love.

Sir Arthur Helps

Admiration

No nobler feeling than this, of admiration for one higher than himself, dwells in the breast of man.—It is to this hour, and at all hours, the vivifying influence in man's life.

Carlyle

Admiration

There is a pleasure in admiration; and this it is which properly causeth admiration, when we discover a great deal in an object which we understand to be excellent; and yet we see more beyond that, which our understandings cannot fully reach and comprehend.

Tillotson

Admiration

There is a wide difference between admiration and love. The sublime, which is the cause of the former, always dwells on great objects and terrible; the latter on small ones and pleasing; we submit to what we admire, but we love what submits to us: in one case we are forced, in the other we are flattered, into compliance.

Burke

Admiration

Those who are formed to win general admiration are seldom calculated to bestow individual happiness.

Lady Blessington

Admiration

To cultivate sympathy you must be among living beings and thinking about them; to cultivate admiration, among beautiful things and looking at them.

Ruskin

Admiration

We always like those who admire us, but we do not always like those whom we admire.

Rochefoucauld

Adolescence

Adolescence is perhaps nature's way of preparing parents for the empty nest.

Karen Savage and Patricia Adams

Adolescence

For many, life's longest mile is the stretch from dependence to independence.

Carla B. James

Adolescence

You don't have to be suffer to be a poet. Adolescence is enough suffering for anyone.

John Ciardi

Adventure

A man practices the art of adventure when he heroically faces up to life…

WHEN he says like Frank Crane:"My soul is a Columbus; and not watery wastes, nor glooming mysteries…shall send me back, nor make me cry 'Enough'!"

WHEN he has the daring to open doors to new experiences and to step boldly forth to explore strange horizons.

WHEN he is unafraid of new ideas, new theories and new philosophies.

WHEN he has the curiosity to experiment…to test and try new ways of living and thinking.

WHEN he has the flexibility to adjust and adapt himself to the changing patterns of life.

WHEN he refuses to seek safe places and easy tasks and has, instead, the courage to wrestle with the toughest problems and difficulties.

WHEN he has the moral stamina to be steadfast in the support of those men in whom he has faith and those causes in which he believes.

WHEN he breaks the chains of routine and renews his life through reading new books, traveling to new places, making new friends, taking up new hobbies and adopting new viewpoints.

WHEN he has the nerve to move out of life's shallows and venture forth into the deep.

WHEN he keeps his heart young, his expectations high and never allows his dreams to die.

WHEN he concludes that a rut is only another name for a grave and that the only way to stay out of the ruts is by living adventurously and staying vitally alive every day of his life.

Wilfred A. Peterson

Adventure

Adventures are an indication of inefficiency. Good explorers don't have them.

Herbert Spencer Dickey

Adventure

Westward the course of empire takes its way.

George Berkeley

Adversity

A dose of adversity is often as needful as a dose of medicine.

B. C. Forbes

Adversity

A high character might be produced, I suppose, by continued prosperity, but it has very seldom been the case. Adversity, however it may appear to be our foe, is our true friend, and, after a little acquaintance with it, we receive it as a precious thing—the prophecy of a coming joy. It should be no ambition of ours to traverse a path without a thorn or stone.

Charles H. Spurgeon

Adversity

A noble heart, like the sun, showeth its greatest countenance in its lowest estate.

Sir P. Sidney

Adversity

A smooth sea never made a skilful mariner, neither do uninterrupted prosperity and success qualify for usefulness and happiness. The storms of adversity, like those of the ocean, rouse the faculties, and excite the invention, prudence, skill, and fortitude in the voyager. The martyrs of ancient times, in bracing their minds to outward calamities, acquired a loftiness of purpose and a moral heroism worth a lifetime of softness and security.

Anonymous

Adversity

A smooth sea never made a skillful mariner; neither do uninterrupted prosperity and success qualify for usefulness and happiness. The storms of adversity; like those of the ocean; rouse the faculties; and excite the invention; prudence..of the voyager.

Author Unknown

Adversity

Ad astra per aspera.

To the stars through hardships.

Anonymous Latin Motto of Kansas

Adversity

Adversity exasperates fools, dejects cowards, draws out the faculties of the wise and industrious, puts the modest to the necessity of trying their skill, awes the opulent, and makes the idle industrious.

Anonymous

Adversity

Adversity has ever been considered the state in which a man most easily becomes acquainted with himself, then especially, being free from flatterers.

Johnson

Adversity

Adversity has the effect of eliciting talents which in prosperous circumstances would have lain dormant.

Horace

Adversity

Adversity is a severe instructor, set over us by one who knows us better than we do ourselves, as he loves us better too. He that wrestles with us strengthens our nerves and sharpens our skill. Our antagonist is our helper. This conflict with difficulty makes us acquainted with our object, and compels us to consider it in all its relations. It will not suffer us to be superficial.

Burke

Adversity

Adversity is like the period of the former and of the latter rain—cold, comfortless, unfriendly to man and to animal; yet from that reason have their birth the flower and the fruit, the date, the rose, and the pomegranate.

Walter Scott

Adversity

Adversity is necessary to the development of man's virtue.

Wisdom of the Chinese

Adversity

Adversity is the diamond dust Heaven polishes its jewels with.

Leighton

Adversity

Adversity, like winger weather, is of use to kill those vermin which the summer of prosperity is apt to produce and nourish.

Arrowsmith

Adversity

Adversity, sage useful guest, severe instructor, but the best; it is from thee alone we know justly to value things below.

Somerville

Adversity

Affliction is a sort of moral gymnasium in which the disciples of Christ are trained to robust exercise; hardy exertion; and severe conflict.

Hannah More

Adversity

Alas, how scant the sheaves for all the trouble, the toil, the pain and the resolve sublime—a few full ears; the rest but weeds and stubble, and withered wild flowers plucked before their time.

A. B. Bragdon

Adversity

Fire is the test of gold; adversity, of strong men.

Lucius Annaeus Seneca

Moral Essays. On Providence, 5, 9

Adversity

Fire is the test of gold; adversity, of strong men.

Seneca

Adversity

Genuine morality is preserved only in the school of adversity; a state of continuous prosperity may easily prove a quicksand to virtue.

Schiller

Adversity

God kills thy comforts to kill thy corruptions; wants are ordained to kill wantonness; poverty to kill pride; reproaches to destroy ambition.

Flavel

Adversity

God lays his cross upon those whom he loves, and those who bear it patiently gain much wisdom.

Luther

Adversity

God obligeth no man to more than he hath given him ability to perform.

The Koran

Chapter 65

Adversity

Good fortune will elevate even petty minds, and give them the appearance of a certain greatness and stateliness, as from their high place they look down upon the world; but the truly noble and resolved spirit raises itself, and becomes more conspicious in times of disaster and ill fortune.

Plutarch

Lives, Eumenes, sec. 9

Adversity

Grief teaches the steadiest minds to waver.

Sophocles

Adversity

He that can heroically endure adversity will bear prosperity with equal greatness of soul; for the mind that cannot be defected by the former is not likely to be transported with the latter.

Fielding

Adversity

He that has never known adversity, is but half acquainted with others, or with himself. Constant success shows us but one side of the world; for as it surrounds us with friends, who tell us only our merits, so it silences those enemies from whom only we can learn our defects.

Colton

Adversity

He that has no cross will have no crown.

Quarles

Adversity

Heaven often smites in mercy, even when the blow is severest.

Joanna Baillie

Adversity

How blunt are all the arrows of adversity in comparison with those of guilt!

Blair

Adversity

I never met with a single instance of adversity which I have not in the end seen was for my good.—I have never heard of a Christian on his deathbed complaining of his afflictions.

A. Proudfit

Adversity

If thou faint in the day of adversity, thy strength is small.

Author Unknown

Adversity

In adversity remember to keep an even mind.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Odes, II, iii, 1

Adversity

In the adversity of our best friends we often find something that does not displease us.

Rochefoucauld

Adversity

In this wild world the fondest and the best are the most tried, most troubled, and distrest.

Crabbe

Adversity

Iron till it be thoroughly heated is uncapable of being wrought; so God sees good to cast some men into the furnace of affliction, and then beats them on his anvil into what frame he pleases.

Anne Bradstreet

Adversity

It is defeat that turns bone to flint; it is defeat that turns gristle to muscle; it is defeat that makes men invincible.

Henry Ward Beecher

Adversity

It is difficulties that show what men are.

Epictetus

Adversity

It is good for man to suffer the adversity of this earthly life: for it brings him back to the sacred retirement of the heart, where only he finds he is an exile from his native home, and ought not to place his trust in any worldly enjoyment.

Thomas A. Kempis

Adversity

It is not the so-called blessings of life, its sunshine and calm and pleasant experiences that make men, but its rugged experiences, its storms and tempests and trials. Early adversity is often a blessing in disguise.

W. Mathews

Adversity

It is trial that proves one thing weak and another strong. A house built on the sand is in fair weather just as good as if built on a rock. A cobweb is as good as the mightiest cable when there is no strain upon it.

Henry Ward Beecher

Adversity

It's a different song when everything's wrong, when you're feeling infernally mortal; when it's ten against one, and hope there is none, buck up, little soldier, and chortle!

Robert W. Service

Adversity

Keep your face to the sunshine and all the shadows will fall behind you.

Helen Keller

Adversity

Many men owe the grandeur of their lives to tremendous difficulties.

Charles H. Spurgeon

Adversity

Mishaps are like knives, that either serve us or cut us, as we grasp them by the blade or by the handle.

James Russell Lowell

Adversity

No life is so hard that you can't make it easier by the way you take it.

Ellen Glasgow

Adversity

No man is more unhappy than the one who is never in adversity; the greatest affliction of life is never to be afflicted.

Anonymous

Adversity

Once there lived an old woman who was always so cheerful that everyone wondered at her: 'But you must have some clouds in your life;' said a visitor. 'Clouds?' she replied; 'why; of course; if there were no clouds; where would the blessed showers come from.

Sunshine Magazine

Adversity

Prosperity has this property: It puffs up narrow souls, makes them imagine themselves high and mighty, and leads them to look down upon the world with contempt; but a truly noble spirit appears greatest in distress; and then becomes more bright and conspicuous.

Plutarch

Adversity

Prosperity is a great teacher; adversity is a greater. Possession pampers the mind; privation trains and strengthens it.

Hazlitt

Adversity

Prosperity is no just scale; adversity is the only balance to weigh friends.

Plutarch

Adversity

Prosperity is the blessing of the Old Testament; adversity is the blessing of the New.

Francis Bacon

Essays, Of Adversity

Adversity

Prosperity is the blessing of the Old Testament; adversity of the New, which carrieth the greater benediction and the clearer revelation of god's favor. Prosperity is not without many fears and distastes; adversity not without many comforts and hopes.

Bacon

Adversity

Prosperity is too apt to prevent us from examining our conduct; but adversity leads us to think properly of our state, and so is most beneficial to us.

Johnson

Adversity

So your fiery trial is still unextinguished. But what if it be but His beacon light on your upward path?

F. R. Havergal

Adversity

Stars may be seen from the bottom of a deep well, when they cannot be discerned from the top of a mountain. So are many things learned in adversity which the prosperous man dreams not of.

Spurgeon

Adversity

Sweet are the uses of adversity,

Which, like the toad, ugly and venomous,

Wears yet a precious jewel in his head;

And this our life, exempt from public haunt,

Finds tongues in trees, books in the running brooks,

Sermons in stones, and good in every thing.

William Shakespeare

As You Like It, II, i, 12

Adversity

Sweet are the uses of adversity; Which; like the toad; ugly and venomous; Wears yet a precious jewel in his head.

William Shakespeare

Adversity

That person who cannot bear chastening cuts himself off from the blessings of Heaven.

Ophelia Kennedy

Adversity

The best rosebush after all, is not that which has the fewest thorns, but that which bears the finest roses.

Henry Van Dyke

Adversity

The brightest crowns that are worn in heaven have been tried, and smelted, and polished, and glorified through the furnace of tribulation.

E. H. Chapin

Adversity

The flower that follows the sun does so even in cloudy days.

Leighton

Adversity

The Gods in bounty work up storms about us, that give mankind occasion to exert their hidden strength, and throw our into practice virtues that shun the day, and lie concealed in the smooth seasons and the calms of life.

Addison

Adversity

The good things of prosperity are to be wished; but the good things that belong to adversity are to be admired.

Seneca

Adversity

The real test in golf and in life is not in keeping out of the rough, but in getting out after we are in.

John H. Moore

Adversity

The sharpest sting of adversity it borrows from our own impatience.

Bp. Horne

Adversity

The truly great and good, in affliction, bear a countenance more princely than they are wont; for it is the temper of the highest hearts, like the palm tree, to strive most upwards when it is most burdened.

Sir P. Sidney

Adversity

The way to bliss lies not on beds of down,

And he that has no cross deserves no crown.

Francis Quarles

Esther 9, Meditation 9

Adversity

The wisdom of God appears in afflictions. By these He separates the sin which He hates from the son whom He loves. By these thorns He keeps him from breaking over into Satan's pleasant pastures;…; but only from the slaughter.

Aughey

Adversity

There are nuggets of gold in Moses that would never have been found had he remained in Pharaoh's palace. It took forty years of roughing it to bring them to the surface.

E. P. Brown

Adversity

There is no education like adversity.

Benjamin Disraeli (Earl of Beaconsfield) (1804-1881)

Endymion (1880)

Adversity

There will be no crown bearers in heaven who are not cross bearers on earth.

Author Unknown

Adversity

Those who have suffered much are like those who know many languages; they have learned to understand and be understood by all.

Madame Swetchine

Adversity

Thou are never at any time nearer to God than when under tribulation; which he permits for the purifications and beautifying of thy soul.

Molinos

Adversity

Though losses and crosses be lessons right severe, there's wit there ye'll get there, ye'll find no other where.

Burns

Adversity

To bear pain without letting it spoil your happiness is true valor.

Author Unknown

Adversity

Too much sun makes a desert.

Arabian Proverb

Adversity

Trials, temptations, disappointments—all these are helps instead of hindrances, if one uses them rightly. They not only test the fibre of character but strengthen it. Every conquering temptation represents a new fund of moral energy. Every trial endured and weathered in the right spirit makes a soul nobler and stronger than it was before.

James Buckham

Adversity

Triumphs without difficulties are empty. Indeed; it is difficulties that make the triumph. It is no feat to travel the smooth road.

Author Unknown

Adversity

We ought as much to pray for a blessing upon our daily rod as upon our daily bread.

John Owen

Adversity

Wherever souls are being tried and ripened, in whatever commonplace and homely ways, there God is hewing out the pillars for His temple.

Phillips Brooks

Adversity

Who hath not known ill fortune, never knew himself, or his own virtue.

Mallet

Adversity

You can bear anything if it isn't your own fault.

Katherine Fullerton Gerould

Advertising/Advertisements

Advertisements contain the only truths to be relied on in a newspaper.

Thomas Jefferson

Advertising/Advertisements

Advertising is the essence of public contact.

Cyrus H. K. Curtis

Advertising/Advertisements

Advertising is the genie which is transforming America into a place of comfort, luxury and ease for millions.

William Allen White

Advertising/Advertisements

Advertising is the key to world prosperity; without it today modern business would be paralyzed.

Julius Klein

Advertising/Advertisements

Advertising is the principle of mass production applied to selling.

Dr. J. T. Dorrance

Advertising/Advertisements

As a profession advertising is young; as a force it is as old as the world. The first four words ever uttered, "Let there be light," constitute its charter. All nature is vibrant with its impulse.

Bruce Barton

Advertising/Advertisements

Business today consists in persuading crowds.

Gerald Stanley Lee

Advertising/Advertisements

I would rather pay ten million dollars for trademark-goodwill without property than one million dollars for property without trademark-goodwill.

George K. Morrow

Advertising/Advertisements

If a fellow wants to be a nobody in the business world, let him neglect sending the mail man to somebody on his behalf.

C. F. Kettering

Advertising/Advertisements

Sanely applied advertising could remake the world.

Stuart Chase

Advertising/Advertisements

The advertising man is a liaison between the products of business and the mind of the nation. He must know both before he can serve either.

Glenn Frank

Advertising/Advertisements

The advertising quack who wearies

With tales of countless cures,

His teeth, I've enacted,

Shall all be extracted

By terrified amateurs.

W. S. Gilbert

Advertising/Advertisements

The business that considers itself immune to the necessity for advertising sooner or later finds itself immune to business.

Derby Brown

Advertising/Advertisements

The great art in writing advertisements is the finding out of a proper method to catch the reader's eye; without which, a good thing may pass over unobserved, or lost among commissions of bankrupt.

Addison

Advice

A thousand times listen to the counsel of your friend, but seek it only once.

A. S. Hardy

Advice

A woman's advice is not worth much, but he who doesn't heed it is a fool.

Pedro Calderon

El Medico de su Honra

Advice

Advice and reprehension require the utmost delicacy; painful truths should be delivered in the softest terms, and expressed no farther than is necessary to produce their due effect. A courteous man will mix what is conciliating with what is offensive; praise with censure; deference and respect with the authority of admonition, so far as can be done in consistence with probity and honor. The mind revolts against all censorian power which displays pride or pleasure in finding fault; but advice, divested of the harshness, and yet retaining the honest warmth of truth, is like honey put round the brim of a vessel full of wormwood. Even this, however, is sometimes insufficient to conceal the bitterness of the draught.

Percival

Advice

Advice is a superfluity. Ninety-nine times out of a hundred people don't take it. The hundredth they do take it, but with a reservation. Then of course it turns out badly, and they think you an idiot, and never forgive you.

L. Malet

Advice

Advice is like snow; the softer it falls, the longer it dwells upon, and the deeper it sinks into the mind.

Coleridge

Advice

Advice is seldom welcome. Those who need it most, like it least.

Johnson

Advice

Agreeable advice is seldom useful advice.

Massillon

Advice

Ah, what is more blessed than to put cares away!

Gaius Valerius Catullus

Carmins, XXXI, 7

Advice

Better late than never.

Livy [Titus Livius]

History, IV, 23

Advice

But you, Catullus, be resolved and firm.

Gaius Valerius Catullus

Carmina, VIII, 19

Advice

Do not give to your friends the most agreeable counsels, but the most advantageous.

Tuckerman

Advice

Do not turn back when you are just at the goal.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 580

Advice

Every man, however wise, needs the advice of some sagacious friend in the affairs of life.

Plautus

Advice

Give every man thine ear, but few thy voice; take each man's censure, but reserve thy judgement.

Shakespeare

Advice

Giving advice is sometimes only showing our wisdom at the expense of another.

Shaftesbury

Advice

Good counsels observed are chains of grace.

Fuller

Advice

Harsh counsels have no effect: they are like hammers which are always repulsed by the anvil.

Helvetius

Advice

He who calls in the aid of an equal understanding doubles his own; and he who profits by a superior understanding raises his powers to a level with the height of the superior understanding he unites with.

Burke

Advice

He who can take advice is sometimes superior to him who can give it.

Karl von Knebel

Advice

How is it possible to expect mankind to take advice when they will not so much as take warning?

Swift

Advice

I am not thinking of those shining precepts which are the registered property of every school; that is to say—learn as much by writing as by reading; be not content with the best book; seek sidelights from the others; have no favourites; keep men and things apart; guard against the prestige of great names; see that your judgments are your own, and do not shrink from disagreement; no trusting without testing; be more severe to ideas than to actions; do not overlook the strength of the bad cause or the weakness of the good; never be surprised by the crumbling of an idol or the disclosure of a skeleton; judge talent at its best and character at its worst; suspect power more than vice, and study problems in preference to periods.

Lord Acton (John E. E. Dalberg)

Inaugural lecture on the Study of History. Cambridge, June 11, 1895.

Advice

If someone gives you so-called good advice, do the opposite; you can be sure it will be the right thing nine out of ten times.

Anselm Feuerbach

Advice

It is a good divine that follows his own instructions. I can easier teach twenty what were good to be done, than be one of twenty to follow mine own teaching.

Shakespeare

Advice

It is bad advice that cannot be altered.

Publilius Syrus

Advice

It is easy when we are well to give good advice to the sick.

Terence

Andria

Advice

It is well to moor your bark with two anchors.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 119

Advice

It takes nearly as much ability to know how to profit by good advice as to know how to act for one's self.

Rochefoucauld

Advice

Let a play have five acts neither more nor less.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Epistles, III, 189

Advice

Let no man presume to give advice to others who has not first given good counsel to himself.

Seneca

Advice

Let no man value at a little price a virtuous woman's counsel.

George Chapman

Advice

Man give away nothing so liberally as their advice.

Rochefoucauld

Advice

Many a man wins glory for prudence by seeking advice, then seeking advice as to what advice would be best to take, and finally following appetite.

Austin O'Malley

Advice

Many receive advice, few profit by it.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 149

Advice

Never thrust your own sickle into another's corn.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 593

Advice

No man is so foolish but he may sometimes give another good counsel, and no man so wise that he may not easily err if he takes no other counsel than his own. He that is taught only by himself has a fool for a master.

Ben Jonson

Advice

Nothing is less sincere than our mode of asking and giving advice. He who asks seems to have deference for the opinion of his friend, while he only aims to get approval of his own and makes his friend responsible for his action. And he who gives repays the confidence supposed to be placed in him by a seemingly disinterested zeal, while he seldom means anything by his advice but his own interest or reputation.

Rochefoucauld

Advice

Old people like to give good advice, as solace for no longer being able to provide bad examples.

Francois, Duc de la Rochefoucauld

Reflections; or, Sentences and Moral Maxims, 93

Advice

Old people love to give good advice; it compensates them for their inability to set a bad example.

Duc de la Rochefoucauld

Advice

Once a word has been allowed to escape, it cannot be recalled.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Epistles, I, xviii, 71

Advice

That it is unwise to be heedless ourselves while we are giving advice to others, I will show in a few lines.

Phaedrus

Fables, I, 9, 1

Advice

The advice of friends must be received with a judicious reserve: we must not give ourselves up to it and follow it blindly, whether right or wrong.

Charron

Advice

The bow too tensely strung is easily broken.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 388

Advice

The greatest trust between man and man is the trust of giving counsel.

Bacon

Advice

The only thing to do with good advice is to pass it on. It is never of any use to oneself.

Oscar Wilde

An Ideal Husband

Advice

The worst men often give the best advice; our thoughts are better sometimes than our deeds.

Bailey

Advice

There is nothing of which men are more liberal than their good advice, be their stock of it ever so small; because it seems to carry in it an intimation of their own influence, importance or worth.

Young

Advice

They that will not be counselled, cannot be helped. If you do not hear reason she will rap you on the knuckles.

Benjamin Franklin

Advice

Those who school others, oft should school themselves.

Shakespeare

Advice

To accept good advice is but to increase one's own ability.

Goethe

Advice

Wait for the season when to cast good counsels upon subsiding passion.

Shakespeare

Advice

We ask advice; we mean approbation.

Colton

Advice

We give advice by the bucket, but take it by the grain.

R. W. Alger

Advice

Whatever you can lose, you should reckon of no account.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 191

Advice

When a man comes to me for advice, I find out the kind of advice he wants, and I give it to him.

Josh Billings

Advice

When a man has been guilty of any vice or folly, the best atonement he can make for it is to warn others not to fall into the like.

Addison

Advice

When a man seeks your advice he generally wants your praise.

Earl of Chesterfield

Advice

Woe to the vanquished.

Livy [Titus Livius]

History, V, 48

Advice

You cannot put the same shoe on every foot.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 596

Advice

You should go to a pear tree for pears, not to an elm.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 674

Advice

You should hammer your iron when it is glowing hot.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 262

Affectation

Affectation differs from hypocrisy in being the art of counterfeiting qualities which we might with innocence and safety be known to want. Hypocrisy is the necessary burden of villainy; affectation, a part of the chosen trappings of folly.

Johnson

Affectation

Affectation in any part of our carriage is but the lighting up of a candle to show our defects, and never fails to make us taken notice of, either as wanting in sense or sincerity.

Locke

Affectation

Affectation is a greater enemy to the face than the small-pox.

St. Evremond

Affectation

Affectation is certain deformity. By forming themselves on fantastic models the young begin with being ridiculous, and often end in being vicious.

Blair

Affectation

Affectation lights a candle to our defects, and though it may gratify ourselves, it disgusts all others.

Lavater

Affectation

Affectation naturally counterfeits those excellencies which are farthest from our attainment, because knowing our defects we eagerly endeavor to supply them with artificial excellence.

Johnson

Affectation

Affectation proceeds either from vanity or hypocrisy; for as vanity puts us on affecting false characters to gain applause, so hypocrisy sets us on the endeavor to avoid censures by concealing your vices under the appearance for their opposite virtues.

Fielding

Affectation

All affectation is the vain and ridiculous attempt of poverty to appear rich.

Lavater

Affectation

All affectation proceeds from the supposition of possessing something better than the rest of the world possesses. Nobody is vain of possessing two legs and two arms, because that is the precise quantity of either sort of limb which everybody possesses.

Sydney Smith

Affectation

All false practices and affectations of knowledge are more odious than any want or defect of knowledge can be.

Sprat

Affectation

Among the numerous stratagems by which pride endeavors to recommend folly to regard, scarcely one meets with less success than affectation, which is a perpetual disguise of the real character by false appearances.

Johnson

Affectation

Avoid all singularity and affectation. What is according to nature is best, while what is contrary to it is always distasteful. Nothing is graceful that is not our own.

Collier

Affectation

Be yourself. Ape no greatness. Be willing to pass for what you are. A good farthing is better than a bad sovereign. Affect no oddness; but dare to be right, though you have to be singular.

S. Coley

Affectation

Great vices are the proper objects of our detestation, and smaller faults of our pity, but the affectation appears to be the only true source of the ridiculous.

Fielding

Affectation

Hearts may be attracted by assumed qualities, but the affections can only be fixed and retained by those that are real.

De Moy

Affectation

Paltry affectation and strained allusions are easily attained by those who choose to wear them; but they are but the badges of ignorance or stupidity when it would endeavor to please.

Goldsmith

Affectation

The two qualities which chiefly inspire regard and affection [are] that a thing is your own and that it is your only one.

Aristotle

Politics, II, 4

Affectation

We are never so ridiculous by the qualities we have, as by those we affect to have.

Rochefoucauld

Affection

Affection, like melancholy, magnifies trifles; but the magnifying of the one is like looking through a telescope at heavenly objects; that of the other, like enlarging monsters with a microscope.

Leigh Hunt

Affection

Does it really matter what these affectionate people do—so long as they don't do it in the streets and frighten the horses!

Attributed to Mrs. Patrick Campbell, rebuke to a young actress reporting that an old actor in the company was too fond of the young and handsome leading man.—Alan Dent, Mrs. Patrick Campbell, p. 78 (1961).Various versions of the first clause occur in different sources. The Oxford Dictionary of Quotations, 3d ed., p. 128 (1970), has "I don't mind where people make love and Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, 15th ed., p. 706, no. 16 (1982), "My dear, I don't care what they do…"

Affection

How often a new affection makes a new man. The sordid becomes liberal; the cowering, heroic; the frivolous girl, the steadfast martyr of patience and ministration, transfigured by deathless love.

E. H. Chapin

Affection

How sacred and beautiful is the feeling of affection in the pure and guileless soul! The proud may sneer at it, the fashionable call it a fable, the selfish and dissipated affect to despise it, but the holy passion is surely from heaven, and is made evil only by the corruptions of those it was sent to preserve and bless.

Mordaunt

Affection

I'd rather than that crowds should sigh for me, that from some kindred eye the trickling tear should steal.

H. K. White

Affection

If there is anything that keeps the mind open to angel visits, and repels the ministry of evil, it is a pure human love.

N. P. Willis

Affection

Mature affection, homage, devotion, does not easily express itself. Its voice is low. It is modest and retiring, it lays in ambush and waits. Such is the mature fruit. Sometimes a life glides away, and finds it still ripening in the shade. The light inclinations of very young people are as dust compared to rocks.

Dickens

Affection

Of all earthly music that which reaches farthest into heaven is the beating of a truly loving heart.

H. W. Beecher

Affection

Our affections are our life. We live by them; they supply our warmth.

Channing

Affection

Our sweetest experiences of affection are meant to point us to that realm which is the real and endless home of the heart.

H. W. Beecher

Affection

The affections are like lightning: you cannot tell where they will strike till they have fallen.

Lacordaire

Affection

The affections, like conscience, are rather to be led than driven—Those who marry where they do not love, will be likely to love where they do not marry.

Fuller

Affection

The heart will commonly govern the head; and any strong passion, set the wrong way, will soon infatuate even the wisest of men; therefore the first part of wisdom is to watch the affections.

Waterland

Affection

There is in life no blessing like affection; it soothes, it hallows, elevates, subdues, and bringeth down to earth its native heaven: life has nought else that may supply its place.

L. E. Landon

Affection

There is so little to redeem the dry mass of follies and errors that make up so much of life, that anything to love or reverence becomes, as it were, a sabbath to the soul.

Bulwer

Affection

When a kiss says "I love you", it's okay. When a kiss says "I want you", it's wrong and you've gone too far.

Author Unknown

Affliction

Affliction comes to us all not to make us sad, but sober; not to make us sorry, but wise; not to make us despondent, but by its darkness to refresh us, as the night refreshes the day; not to impoverish, but to enrich us, as the plough enriches the field; to multiply our joy, as the seed, by planting, is multiplied a thousand fold.

H. W. Beecher

Affliction

Affliction is a divine diet which though it be not pleasing to mankind, yet Almighty God hath often imposed it as a good, though bitter, physic, to those children whose souls are dearest to him.

Izaak Walton

Affliction

Affliction is a school of virtue; it corrects levity, and interrupts the confidence of sinning.

Atterbury

Affliction

Affliction is not sent in vain from the good God who chastens those that he loves.

Southey

Affliction

Affliction is the good man's shining scene; prosperity conceals his brightest ray; as night to stars, woe lustre gives to man.

Young

Affliction

Affliction is the wholesome soil of virtue, where patience, honor, sweet humility, and calm fortitude, take root and strongly flourish.

Mallet

Affliction

Afflictions sent by providence melt the constancy of the noble minded, but confirm the obduracy of the vile, as the same furnace that liquefies the gold, hardens the clay.

Colton

Affliction

Ah! if you only know the peace there is in an accepted sorrow.

Mde. Guion

Affliction

Amid my list of blessings infinite, stands this the foremost, "that my heart has bled."

Young

Affliction

As in nature, as in art, so in grace; it is rough treatment that gives souls, as well as stones, their lustre. The more the diamond is cut the brighter it sparkles; and in what seems hard dealing, there God has no end in view but to perfect his people.

Guthrie

Affliction

As sure as God puts his children into the furnace of affliction, he will be with them in it.

Spurgeon

Affliction

As threshing separates the wheat from the chaff, so does affliction purify virtue.

Burton

Affliction

By afflictions God is spoiling us of what otherwise might have spoiled us. When he makes the world too hot for us to hold, we let it go.

Powell

Affliction

Come then, affliction, if my Father wills, and be my frowning friend. A friend that frowns is better than a smiling enemy.

Anonymous

Affliction

Extraordinary afflictions are not always the punishment of extraordinary graces. Sanctified afflictions are spiritual promotions.

M. Henry

Affliction

God sometimes washes the eyes of his children with tears that they may read aright his providence and his commandments.

T. L. Cuyler

Affliction

Had I a hundred tongues, a hundred lips, a throat of iron and a chest of brass, I could not tell nen's countless sufferings.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aeneid, VI, 298

Affliction

Heaven but tries our virtue by affliction, and oft the cloud that wraps the present hour serves but to brighten all our future days.

J. Brown

Affliction

How fast we learn in a day of sorrow! Scriptures shines out in a new effulgence; every verse seems to contain a sunbeam every promise stands out in illuminated splendor; things hard to be understood become in a moment plain.

H. Bonar

Affliction

I have learned more of experimental religion since my little boy died than in all my life before.

Horace Bushnell

Affliction

If you would not have affliction visit you twice; listen at once to what it teaches.

James Burgh

Affliction

If your cup seem too bitter, if your burden seems too heavy, be sure that it is the wounded hand that is holding the cup, and that it is He who carries the cross that is carrying the burden.

S. I. Prime

Affliction

It has done me good to be somewhat parched by the heat and drenched by the rain of life.

Longfellow

Affliction

It is a great thing, when the cup of bitterness is pressed to our lips, to feel that it is not fate or necessity, but divine love working upon us for good ends.

E. H. Chapin

Affliction

It is from the remembrance of joys we have lost that the arrows of affliction are pointed.

Mackenzie

Affliction

It is not from the tall crowded workhouse of prosperity that men first or clearest see the eternal stars of heaven.

Theodore Parker

Affliction

It is not until we have passed through the furnace that we are made to know how much dross there is in our composition.

Colton

Affliction

Many secrets of religion are not perceived till they be felt, and are not felt but in the day of a great calamity.

Jeremy Taylor

Affliction

Never on earth calamity so great, as not to leave to us, if rightly weighed, what would console 'mid what we sorrow for.

Shakespeare

Affliction

Never was there a man of deep piety, who has not been brought into extremities—who has not been put into fire—who has not been taught to say, "Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him."

Cecil

Affliction

No Christian but has his Gethsemane; but every praying Christian will find there is no Gethsemane without its angel.

T. Binney

Affliction

Nothing can occur beyond the strength of faith to sustain, or transcending the resources of religion to relieve.

T. Binney

Affliction

Paradoxical as it may seem, God means not only to make us good, but to make us also happy, by sickness, disaster and disappointment.

C. A. Bartol

Affliction

Sanctified afflictions are like so many artificers working on a pious man's crown to make it more bright and massive.

Ralph Cudworth

Affliction

Strength is born in the deep silence of long-suffering hearts; not amid joy.

Mrs. Hemans

Affliction

Tears are often the telescope by which men see far into heaven.

H. W. Beecher

Affliction

The fineness and strength essential to our best being, and to make us do our work, come by the hammer and the fire, by the thorn in the flesh, the trouble and pain in our life, which may act in us as the fire acts in the iron, welding the fiber afresh.

Robert Collyer

Affliction

The gem cannot be polished without friction, nor man perfected without trials.

Chinese Proverb

Affliction

The good are better made by ill, as odors crushed are sweeter still.

Rogers

Affliction

The hiding places of men are discovered by affliction. As one has aptly said, "Our refuges are like the nests of birds; in summer they are hidden away among the green leaves, but in winter they are seen among the naked branches."

J. W. Alexander

Affliction

The lessons we learn in sadness and from loss are those that abide. Sorrow clarifies the mind, steadies it, forces it to weigh things correctly. The soil moist with tears best feeds the seeds of truth.

T. T. Munger

Affliction

The lord gets his best soldiers out of the highlands of affliction.

Spurgeon

Affliction

The most generous vine, if not pruned, runs out into many superfluous stems and grows at last weak and fruitless so doth the best man if he be not cut short in his desires, and pruned with afflictions.

Bp. Hall

Affliction

The only way to meet affliction is to pass through it solemnly, slowly, with humility and faith, as the Israelites passed through the sea. Then its very waves of misery will divide, and become to us a wall, on the right side and on the left, until the gulf narrows before our eyes, and we land safe on the opposite shore.

Miss Mulock

Affliction

The soil moist with tears best feeds the seeds of truth.

T. T. Munger

Affliction

The soul that suffers is stronger that the soul that rejoices.

E. Shepard

Affliction

The very afflictions of our earthly pilgrimage are presages of our future glory as shadows indicate the sun.

Richter

Affliction

There is such a difference between coming out or sorrow merely thankful relief, and coming out of sorrow full of sympathy with, and trust in Him who has released us.

Phillips Brooks

Affliction

Though all afflictions are evils in themselves, yet they are good for us, because they discover to us our disease and tend to our cure.

Tillotson

Affliction

Unspeakable, O Queen, is the sorrow you bid me renew.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aeneid, II, 3

Affliction

We are apt to overlook the hand and heart of God in our afflictions, and to consider them as mere accidents, and unavoidable evils. This view makes them absolute and positive evils which admit of no remedy or relief. If we view our troubles and trials aside from the divine design and agency in them, we cannot be comforted.

Emmons

Affliction

We should always record our thoughts in affliction: set up way-marks, that we may recur to them in health; for then we are in other circumstances, and can never recover our sick-bed views.

What seem to us but dim funereal tapers, may be heaven's distant lamps.

Longfellow

Affliction

With the wind of tribulation God separates, in the floor of the soul, the wheat from the chaff.

Molinos

Affluence

More and more Americans feel threatened by runaway technology, by large-scale organization, by overcrowding. More and more Americans are appalled by the ravages of industrial progress, by the defacement of nature, by man-made ugliness. If our society continues at its present rate to become less livable as it becomes more affluent, we promise all to end up in sumptuous misery.

John W. Gardner, No Easy Victories, ed. Helen Rowan, p. 57 (1968).

Gardner was secretary of health, education, and welfare 1965-1968.

Affluence

Tax reduction has an almost irresistible appeal to the politician, and it is no doubt also gratifying to the citizen. It means more dollars in his pocket, dollars that he can spend if inflation doesn't consume them first. But dollars in his pocket won't buy him clean streets or an adequate police force or good schools or clean air and water. Handing money back to the private sector in tax cuts and starving the public sector is a formula for producing richer and richer consumers in filthier and filthier communities. If we stick to that formula we shall end up in affluent misery.

John W. Gardner, The Recovery of Confidence, p. 152 (1970). He was secretary of health, education, and welfare 1965-1968.

Affluence

We are stripped bare by the curse of plenty.

Winston Churchill, lecture, Cleveland, Ohio, February 3, 1932.—Winston S. Churchill: His Complete Speeches, 1897-1963, ed. Robert Rhodes James, vol. 5, p. 5130 (1974).Churchill was referring to the theory that over-production caused the Depression.

Affluence

With breathtaking rapidity, we are destroying all that was lovely to look at and turning America into a prison house of the spirit. The affluent society, with relentless single-minded energy, is turning our cities, most of suburbia and most of our roadways into the most affluent slum on earth.

Attributed to Eric Sevareid. Unverified.

Age

A comfortable old age is the reward of a well-spent youth. Instead of its bringing sad and melancholy prospects of decay, it would give us hopes of eternal youth in a better world.

R. Palmer

Age

A graceful and honorable old age is the childhood of immortality.

Pindar

Age

A healthy old fellow, who is not a fool, is the happiest creature living.

Steele

Age

A person is always startled when he hears himself called old for the first time.

O. W. Holmes

Age

Age does not depend upon years, but upon temperament and health. Some men are born old, and some never grow up.

Tyron Edwards

Age

Age does not make us childish, as some say; it finds us true children.

Goethe

Age

Age in a virtuous person, of either sex, carries in it an authority which makes it preferable to all the pleasures of youth.

Richard Steele

Age

Age is rarely despised but when it is contemptible.

Johnson

Age

Age should fly concourse, cover in retreat defects of judgement, and the will subdue; walk thoughtful on the silent, solemn shore of that vast ocean it must sail so soon.

Young

Age

Age sits with decent grace upon his visage, and worthily becomes his silver locks, who wears the marks of many years well spent, of virtue, truth well tried, and wise experience.

Rowe

Age

Age that lessens the enjoyment of life, increases our desire of living.

Goldsmith

Age

An aged Christian, with the snow of time upon his head, may remind us that those points of earth are whitest which are nearest to heaven.

E. H. Chapin

Age

As we advance in life the circle of our pains enlarge, while that of our pleasures contracts.

Madame Swetchine

Age

As we grow old we become both more foolish and more wise.

Rochefoucauld

Age

As winter strips the leaves from around us, so that we may see the distant regions they formerly concealed, so old age takes away our enjoyments only to enlarge the prospect of the coming eternity.

Richter

Age

At sixty a man has passed most of the reefs and whirlpools. Excepting only death, he has no enemies left to meet…. That man has awakened to a new youth…. Ergo, he is young.

George Luks

Age

Can this world

From of old

Always have been so dark,

Or did it become so for the sake

Of me alone?

Kokinshu (Collection of Ancient and Modern Poems)

Age

Cautious age suspects the flattering form, and only credits what experience tells.

Johnson

Age

Childhood itself is scarcely more lovely than a cheerful, kindly, sunshiny old age.

L. M. Child

Age

Denunciation of the young is a necessary part of the hygiene of older people and greatly assists in the circulation of their blood.

Logan Pearsall Smith

Age

Every one desires to live long, but no one would be old.

Swift

Age

Give me a young man in whom there is something of the old, and an old man with something of the young: guided so, a man may grow old in body, but never in mind.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

De Senectute XI

Age

Gray hairs seem to my fancy like the soft light of the moon, silvering over the evening of life.

Richter

Age

He that hath a beard is more than a youth, and he that hath none is less than a man.

Shakespeare

Age

He that is not handsome at 20, nor strong at 30, nor rich at 40, nor wise at 50, will never be handsome, strong, rich or wise.

George Herbert

Outlandish Proverbs

Age

He who would pass his declining years with honor and comfort, should, when young, consider that he may one day become old, and remember when he is old, that he has once been young.

Addison

Age

How beautiful can time with goodness make an old man look.

Jerrold

Age

How many fancy they have experience simply because they have grown old.

Stanislaus

Age

I venerate old age; and I love not the man who can look without emotion upon the sunset of life, when the dusk of evening begins to gather over the watery eye, and the shadows of twilight grow broader and deeper upon the understanding.

Longfellow

Age

If only, when one heard

That Old Age was coming

One could bolt the door,

Answer "Not at home"

And refuse to meet him!

Kokinshu (Collection of Ancient and Modern Poems)

Age

If reverence is due from others to the old, they ought also to respect themselves; and by grave, prudent, and holy actions put a crown of glory upon their own gray heads.

Bp. Hopkins

Age

If wrinkles must be written upon your brows; let them not be written upon the heart, for the spirit should never grow old.

James A. Garfield

Age

In old age life's shadows are meeting eternity's day.

Clarke

Age

It is a rare and difficult attainment to grow old gracefully and happily.

L. M. Child

Age

It is not by the gray of the hair that one knows the age of the heart.

Edward Bulwer-Lytton

Age

It is often the case with fine natures, that when the fire of the spirit dies out with increasing age, the power of intellect is unaltered or increased, and on originally educated judgement grows broader and gentler as the river of life widens out to the everlasting sea.

Mrs. Gatty

Age

It is only necessary to grow old to become more charitable and even indulgent. I see no fault committed by others that I have not committed myself.

Goethe

Age

Let us respect gray hairs, especially our own.

J. P. Senn

Age

Like a morning dream, life becomes more and more bright the longer we live, and the reason of everything appears more clear. What has puzzled us before seems less mysterious, and the crooked paths look straighter as we approach the end.

Richter

Age

Men of age object too much, consult too long, adventure too little, repent too soon, and seldom drive business home to the full period, but content themselves with a mediocrity of success.

Bacon

Age

My body, now close to fifty years of age, has become an old tree that bears bitter peaches, a snail which has lost its shell, a bagworm separated from its bag; it drifts with the winds and clouds that know no destination. Morning and night I have eaten traveler's fare, and have held out for alms a pilgrim's wallet.

Matsuo Basho

Age

No one is so old that he cannot live yet another year, nor so young that he cannot die today.

Fernando de Rojas

Age

No snow falls lighter than the snow of age; but none lies heavier, for it never melts.

L. M. Child

Age

No wise man ever wished to be younger.

Swift

Age

Nothing is more disgraceful than that an old man should have nothing to show to prove that he has lived long, except his years.

Seneca

Age

Oh this age! How tasteless and illbred it is!

Gaius Valerius Catullus

Carmina, XLIII, 8

Age

Old age adds to the respect due to virtue, but it takes nothing from the contempt inspired by vice; it whitens only the hair.

J. P. Senn

Age

Old age has deformities enough of its own. It should never add to them the deformity of vice.

Cato

Age

Old age is a blessed time. It gives us leisure to put off our earthly garments one by one, and dress ourselves for heaven. "Blessed are they that are home-sick, for they shall get home."

L. M. Child

Age

Old age is a tyrant, which forbids the pleasures of youth on pain of death.

Rochefoucauld

Age

Old age is the harbor of all ills.

Bion

From Diogenes Laertius, IV, 47

Age

Old men are children for a second time.

Aristophanes

Age

Old men are garrulous by nature.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

De Senectute XVI

Age

Old men's eyes are like old men's memories; they are strongest for things a long way off.

George Eliot

Age

One's age should be tranquil, as childhood should be playful. Hard work at either extremity of life seems out of place. At midday the sun may burn and men labor under it; but the morning and evening should be alike calm and cheerful.

Arnold

Age

Our youth and manhood are due to our country, but our declining years are due to ourselves.

Pliny

Age

Probably the happiest period in life most frequently is in middle age, when the eager passions of youth are cooled, and the infirmities of age not yet begun; as we see that the shadows, which are at morning and evening so large, almost entirely disappear at midday.

T. Arnold

Age

Some men never seem to grow old. Always active in thought, always ready to adopt new ideas, they are never chargeable with fogyism. Satisfied, yet ever dissatisfied, settled, yet ever unsettled, they always enjoy the best of what is, and are the first to find the best of what will be.

Shakespeare

Age

That man never grows old who keeps a child in his heart.

Steele

Age

That old man dies prematurely whose memory records no benefits conferred. They only have lived long who have lived virtuously.

Sheridan

Age

That which is called dotage, is not the weak point of all old men, but only of such as are distinguished by their levity and weakness.

Cicero

Age

The evening of a well-spent life brings its lamps with it.

Joubert

Age

The golden age is before us, not behind us.

St. Simon

Age

The Grecian ladies counted their age from their marriage, not from their birth.

Homer

Age

The old men know when an old man dies.

Ogden Nash

Age

The tendency of old age to the body, say the physiologists, is to form bone. It is as rare as it is pleasant to meet with an old man whose opinions are not ossified.

J. F. Boyse

Age

The vices of old age have the stiffness of it too; and as it is the unfittest time to learn in, so the unfitness of it to unlearn will be found much greater.

South

Age

The young may die, but the old must!

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Age

There are three classes into which all the women past seventy years of age I have ever known were divided; that dear old soul; that old woman; that old witch.

Coleridge

Age

There are two things which grow stringer in the breast of man in proportion as he advances in years: the love of country and religion. Let them be never so much forgotten in youth, they sooner or later present themselves to us arrayed in all their charms, and excite in the recesses of our hearts in attachment justly due to their beauty.

Chateaubriand

Age

There cannot live a more unhappy creature than an ill-natured old man, who is neither capable of receiving pleasures, nor sensible of conferring them on others.

Sir W. Temple

Age

There is not a more repulsive spectacle than on old man who will not forsake the world, which has already forsaken him.

Tholuck

Age

Therefore my age is as a lusty winter,

Frosty, but kindly.

William Shakespeare

As You Like It, II, iii, 52

Age

These are the effects of doting age; vain doubts and idle cares and over caution.

Dryden

Age

Thirst of power and of riches now bear sway, the passion and infirmity of age.

Froude

Age

Though I look old, yet I am strong and lusty; for in my youth I never did apply hot and rebellious liquors in my blood; and did not, with unbashful forehead, woo the means of weakness and debility: therefore my age is as a lusty winter, frosty but kindly.

Shakespeare

Age

To be happy, we must be true to nature, and carry our age along with us.

Hazlitt

Age

To resist the frigidity of old age, one must combine the body, the mind, and the heart. And to keep these in parallel vigor one must exercise, study, and love.

Bonstettin

Age

Toward old age both men and women hang to life by their habits.

Charles Reade

Age

We should so provide for old age that it may have no urgent wants of this world to absorb it from meditation on the next. It is awful to see the lean hands of dotage making a coffer of the grave.

Bulwer

Age

When a noble life has prepared old age, it is not decline that it reveals, but the first days of immortality.

Madame de Stael

Age

When men grow virtuous in their old age, they are merely making a sacrifice to God of the devil's leavings.

Swift

Age

When one becomes indifferent to women, to children, and to young people, he may know that he is superannuated, and has withdrawn from what is sweetest and purest in human existence.

A. B. Alcott

Age

When we are out of sympathy with the young, then I think our work in this world is over.

G. MacDonald

Age

When we are young, we are slavishly employed in procuring something whereby we may live comfortable when we grow old; and when we are old, we perceive it is too late to live as we proposed.

Pope

Age

While one finds company in himself and his pursuits, he cannot feel old, no matter what his years may be.

A. B. Alcott

Age

Without fullness of experience, length of days is nothing. When fullness of life has been achieved, shortness of days is nothing. That is perhaps why the young,…have usually so little fear of death; they live by intensities that the elderly have forgotten.

Lewis Mumford

Age

Worry; doubt; self-distrust; fear and despair—these are the long; long years that bow the head and turn the growing spirit back to dust.

Author Unknown

Age

Ye who are old, remember youth with thought of affection.

Shakespeare

Age

Year's wrinkle the skin; but to give up enthusiasm wrinkles the soul.

Author Unknown

Age

Years do not make sages; they only mame old men.

Madame Swetchine

Age

You are as young as your faith; as old as your doubt; as young as your self-confidence; as old as your fear; as young as your hope; as old as your despair.

Author Unknown

Age

You take all the experience and judgment of men over fifty out of the world and there wouldn't be enough left to run it.

Henry Ford

Age

Youth changes its tastes by the warmth of its blood; age retains its tastes by habit.

Rochefoucauld

Old Age

As I give thought to the matter, I find four causes for the apparent misery of old age; first, it withdraws us from active accomplishments; second, it renders the body less powerful; third, it deprives us of almost all forms of enjoyment; fourth, it stands not far from death.

Marcus Tullius Cicero, De Senectute (Of Old Age), books, section 15.—Herbert N. Couch, Cicero on the Art of Growing Old, p. 21 (1959).

Old Age

As one grows older, one becomes wiser and more foolish.

Francois de la Rochefoucauld. The maxim, "En vieillissant, on devient plus fouet plus sage," was first published in his Réflexions ou Sentences et Maximes Morales, 1655. There are various English translations, including that above from his Selected Maxims and Reflections, trans. Edward M. Stack, p. 26 (1956).

Old Age

Between the years of ninety-two and a hundred and two, however, we shall be the ribald, useless, drunken, outcast person we have always wished to be. We shall have a long white beard and long white hair; we shall not walk at all, but recline in a wheel chair and bellow for alcoholic beverages; in the winter we shall sit before the fire with our feet in a bucket of hot water, a decanter of corn whiskey near at hand, and write ribald songs against organized society; strapped to one arm of our chair will be a forty-five caliber revolver, and we shall shoot out the lights when we want to go to sleep, instead of turning them off; when we want air we shall throw a silver candlestick through the front window and be damned to it; we shall address public meetings (to which we have been invited because of our wisdom) in a vein of jocund malice. We shall…but we don't wish to make any one envious of the good time that is coming to us….We look forward to a disreputable, vigorous, unhonoured, and disorderly old age.

Don Marquis, The Almost Perfect State, pp. 183-84 (1927).

Old Age

Growing old is no more than a bad habit which a busy man has no time to form.

Andre Maurois, The Art of Living, trans. James Whitall, chapter 8, pp. 282-83 (1940).

Old Age

Old age isn't so bad when you consider the alternative.

Attributed to Maurice Chevalier.—James B. Simpson, Contemporary Quotations, p. 295 (1964), citing The New York Times, Sunday, October 9, 1960. Unverified.

Old Age

This increase in the life span and in the number of our senior citizens presents this Nation with increased opportunities: the opportunity to draw upon their skill and sagacity—and the opportunity to provide the respect and recognition they have earned. It is not enough for a great nation merely to have added new years to life—our objective must also be to add new life to those years.

President John F. Kennedy, special message to the Congress on the needs of the nation's senior citizens, February 21, 1963.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: John F Kennedy, 1963, p. 189.

Old Age

To hold the same views at forty as we held at twenty is to have been stupefied for a score of years, and take rank, not as a prophet, but as an unteachable brat, well birched and none the wiser.

Robert Louis Stevenson, "Crabbed Age and Youth" Virginibus Puerisque and Later Essays, p. 67 (1969). Written between 1874-1879.

Old Age

Yet somehow our society must make it right and possible for old people not to fear the young or be deserted by them, for the test of a civilization is in the way that it cares for its helpless members.

Pearl S. Buck, My Several Worlds, p. 337 (1954).

Agitation

Agitation is the marshalling of the conscience of a nation to mould its laws.

Sir R. Peel

Agitation

Agitation is the method that plants the school by the side of the ballot-box.

Wendell Phillips

Agitation

Agitation prevents rebellion, keeps the peace, and secures progress. Every step she gains is gained forever. Muskets are the weapons of animals. Agitation is the atmosphere of the brains.

Wendell Phillips

Agitation

Agitation, under pretence of reform, with a view to overturn revealed truth and order, is the worst kind of mischief.

C. Simmons

Agitation

Those who mistake the excitement and agitation of reform for the source of danger, must have overlooked all history.

We believe in excitement when the theme is great: in agitation when huge evils are to be reformed. It is thus that a state or nation clears itself of great moral wrongs and effects important changes. Still waters gather to themselves poisonous ingredients, and scatter epidemics and death. The noisy, tumbling brook, and the rolling and rearing ocean, are pure and healthful. The moral and political elements need the rocking and heavings of free discussion, for their own purification. The nation feels a healthier pulsation, and breathes a more invigorating atmosphere, than if pulpit, platform, and press, were all silent as the tomb, leaving misrule and oppression unwatched and unscathed.

P. Cooke

Agnosticism/Atheism

Agnosticism is the philosophical, ethical, and religious dry-rot of the modern world.

F. E. Abbot

Agnosticism/Atheism

Agnosticism simply means that a man shall not say he knows or believes that for which he has no grounds for professing to believe.

Thomas Henry Huxley

Agnosticism/Atheism

An agnostic is a man who doesn't know whether there is a God or not, doesn't know whether he has a soul or not, doesn't know whether there is a future life or not, doesn't believe that any one else knows anymore about these matters than he does, and thinks it a waste of time to try to find out.

Dana

Agnosticism/Atheism

I don't know if God exists, but it would be better for His reputation if He didn't.

Jules Renard

Agnosticism/Atheism

The agnostic's prayer: "O God, if there is a god, save my soul, if I have a soul."

Ernest Renan

Agnosticism/Atheism

The agrarian would divide all the property in the community equally among its members. But if so divided today, industry on the one hand, and idleness on the other, would make it unequal on the morrow. There is no agrarianism in the providence of God.

Tyron Edwards

Agnosticism/Atheism

The mystery of the beginning of all things is insoluble by us; and I for one must be content to remain an agnostic.

Charles Darwin

Agnosticism/Atheism

The term "agnostic" is only the Greek equivalent of the Latin and English "Ignoramus"—a name one would think scientists would be slow to apply to themselves.

The worst moment for the atheist is when he is really thankful and has nobody to thank.

Dante Gabriel Rossetti

Agnosticism/Atheism

The writers against religion, whilst they oppose every system, are wisely careful never to set up any of their own.

Edmund Burke

Agnosticism/Atheism

There is only one greater folly than that of the fool who says in his heart there is no God, and that is the folly of the fool that says with its head that it does not know whether there is a god or not.

Bismarck

Agnosticism/Atheism

What, indeed, is agnosticism, but, to use an expressive term, "shamefaced" materialism.

Friedrich Engels (1820-1895)

Anti-Duhring (1878), Pt. III

Agreeability

Blessed is the man who has a skin of right thickness. He can work happily in spite of enemies and friends.

Henry J. Bailey

Agriculture

A study of depressions since the Civil War brings out the conclusion that if a decline in the agricultural purchasing power did not actually start the general economic collapse it added almost immediately its immense weight to the general collapse with a vast and devastating impetus.

Louis Bromfield

Agriculture

Agriculture for an honorable and highminded man, is the best of all occupations or arts by which men procure the means of living.

Xenophon

Agriculture

Agriculture is the foundation of manufactures, since the productions of nature are the materials of art.

Gibbon

Agriculture

Agriculture not only gives riches to a nation, but the only riches she can call her own.

Johnson

Agriculture

Burn down your cities and leave our farms, and your cities will spring up again as if by magic; but destroy our farms and the grass will grow in the streets of every city in the country…. We will answer their demand for a gold standard by saying to them: You shall not press down upon the brow of labor this crown of thorns, you shall not crucify mankind upon a cross of gold.

William Jennings Bryan, speech at the Democratic national convention, Chicago, Illinois, July 8, 1896.—Speeches of William Jennings Bryan, rev., vol. 1, pp. 248-49 (1911).Often referred to as the "Cross of Gold" speech because of its widely-quoted concluding sentence, above. He served in Congress 1891-1895.

Agriculture

Command large fields, but cultivate small ones.

Virgil

Agriculture

For of all gainful professions, nothing is better, nothing more pleasing, nothing more delightful, nothing better becomes a well-bred man than agriculture.

Marcus Tullius Cicero, De Officiis, book 1, chapter 42, Cicero's Three Books of Offices, or Moral Duties, trans. Cyrus R. Edmonds, p. 73 (1873).

Agriculture

He that would look with contempt on the pursuits of the farmer, is not worthy the name of a man.

H. W. Beecher

Agriculture

In a moral point of view, the life of the agriculturist is the most pure and holy of any class of men; pure, because it is the most healthful, and vice can hardly find time to contaminate it; and holy, because it brings the Deity perpetually before his view, giving him thereby the most exalted notions of supreme power, and the most endearing view of the divine benignity.

Lord John Russell

Agriculture

In the age of acorns, before the times of Ceres, a single barley-corn had been of more value to mankind than all the diamonds of the mines of India.

H. Brooke

Agriculture

Let the farmer for evermore be honored in his calling, for they who labor in the earth are the chosen people of God.

Thomas Jefferson

Agriculture

One of the surpluses that has given us the most trouble has been that of farm leaders.

Alexander Legge

Agriculture

The agrarian, like the communist, would bring all above him down to his own level, or raise himself to theirs, but is not anxious to bring those below him up to himself.

C. Simmons

Agriculture

The farther we get away from the land, the greater our insecurity.

Henry Ford

Agriculture

The first three men in the world were a gardener, a ploughman, and a grazier; and if any object that the second of these was a murderer, I desire him to consider that as soon as he was so, he quitted our profession, and turned builder.

Cowley

Agriculture

The frost is God's plough which he drives through every inch of ground in the world, opening each clod, and pulverizing the whole.

Fuller

Agriculture

There seems to be but three ways for a nation to acquire wealth: the first is by war, as the Romans did, in plundering their conquered neighbors—this is robbery, the second by commerce, which is generally cheating; the third by agriculture, the only honest way, wherein man receives a real increase of the seed thrown into the ground in a kind of continual miracle, wrought by the hand of God in his favor, as a reward for his innocent life and his virtuous industry.

Benjamin Franklin

Agriculture

Trade increases the wealth and glory of a country; but its real strength and stamina are to be looked for among the cultivators of the land.

Lord Chatham

Agriculture

We may talk as we please of lilies, and lions rampant, and spread eagles in fields of d'or or d'argent, but if heraldry were guided by reason, a plough in the field arable would be the most noble and ancient arms.

Cowley

Agriculture

When agricultural land and its productivity falls below a certain standard in relation to population, meat, poultry and dairy products become either prohibitively high in price or altogether unobtainable and a direct cereal diet becomes the necessity of the bulk of any population.

Louis Bromfield

Aims

Aim at perfection in everything, though in most things it is unattainable; however, they who aim at it, and persevere, will come much nearer to it, than those whose laziness and despondency make them give it up as unattainable.

Earl of Chesterfield

Aims

Aim at the sun, and you may not reach it; but your arrow will fly far higher than if aimed at an object on a level with yourself.

J. Hawes

Aims

Dream manfully and nobly, and thy dreams shall be prophets.

Bulwer

Aims

High aims and lofty purposes are the wings of the soul aiding it to mount to heaven.

S. Spring

Aims

High aims and lofty purposes are the wings of the soul aiding it to mount to heaven. In God's word we have a perfect standard both of duty and character, that by the influence of both, appealing to the best principles of our nature, we may be roused to the noblest and best efforts.

S. Spring

Aims

High aims form high characters, and great objects bring out great minds.

Tyron Edwards

Aims

In great attempts it is glorious even to fail.

Longinus

Aims

It is a sad thing to begin life with low conceptions of it. It may not be possible for a young man to measure life; but it is possible to say, I am resolved to put life to its noblest and best use.

T. T. Munger

Aims

Providence has nothing good or high in store for one who does not resolutely aim at something high or good. A purpose is the eternal condition of success.

T. T. Munger

Aims

Resolved to live with all my might while I do live, and as I shall wish I had done ten thousand ages hence.

Jonathan Edwards

Aims

The man who seeks one, and but one, thing in life may hope to achieve it; but he who seeks all things, wherever he goes, only reaps, from the hopes which he sows, a harvest of barren regrets.

Bulwer

Aims

We want an aim that can never grow vile, and which cannot disappoint our hope. There is but one such on earth, and it is that of being like God. He who strives after union with perfect love must grow out of selfishness, and his success is secured in the omnipotent holiness of God.

S. Brooke

Aims

What are the aims which are at the same time duties?—They are the perfecting of ourselves, and the happiness of others.

Kant

Alaska

I wanted the gold, and I sought it;

I scrabbled and mucked like a slave.

Was it famine or scurvy—I fought it;

I hurled my youth into a grave.

I wanted the gold, and I got it—

Came out with a fortune last fall,—

Yet somehow life's not what I thought it,

And somehow the gold isn't all.

No! There's the land. (Have you seen it?)

It's the cussedest land that I know,

From the big, dizzy mountains that screen it

To the deep, deathlike valleys below.

Some say God was tired when He made it;

Some say it's a fine land to shun;

Maybe; but there's some as would trade it

For no land on earth—and I'm one.

Robert W. Service, "The Spell of the Yukon,' stanzas 1 and 2, The Spell of the Yukon, p. 15 (1961).

Alchemy

Alchemy may be compared to the man who told his sons of gold buried somewhere in his vineyard, where they by digging found no gold, but by turning up the mould about the roots of their vines, procured a plentiful vintage. So the search and endeavors to make gold have brought many useful inventions and instructive experiments to light.

Bacon

Alchemy

I have always looked upon alchemy in natural philosophy, to be like over enthusiasm in divinity, and to have troubled the world much to the same purpose.

Sir W. Temple

Alcohol

Fill all the glasses there, for why

Should every creature drink but I,

Why, man of morals, tell my why?

Abraham Cowley

Anacreon, II, Drinking

Alcohol

At the beginning of a cask and at the end take your fill; in the middle be sparing.

Hesiod

Ib. 368

Alcohol

At the third cup, wine drinks the man.

Hokekyo Sho, a Buddhist Sanskrit text. From Kojikotowaza Jiten (Dictionary of Tradition and Proverbs).Several commentators in the 1500s wrote about this; however, the earliest commentary was around the 12th century. The translation is literally: "Man drinks wine. Wine drinks wine. Wine drinks man."

Alcohol

Dear Friend:

I had not intended to discuss this controversial subject at this particular time. However, I want you to know that I do not shun a controversy. On the contrary, I will take a stand on any issue at any time, regardless of how fraught with controversy it may be. You have asked me how I feel about whiskey. Here is how I stand on the question.

If, when you say whiskey you mean the Devil's brew, the poison scourge, the bloody monster that defiles innocence, dethrones reason, destroys the home, creates misery and poverty…takes the bread from the mouths of little children; if you mean the evil drink that topples the Christian man and woman from the pinnacles of righteous, gracious living into the bottomless pit of degradation and despair, shame and helplessness and hopelessness, then certainly I am against it with all of my power.

But, if, when you say whiskey, you mean the oil of conversation, the philosophic wine, the ale that is consumed when good fellows get together, that puts a song in their hearts and laughter on their lips and the warm glow of contentment in their eyes; if you mean Christmas cheer; If you mean the stimulating drink that puts the spring in the old gentleman's step on a frosty morning; if you mean the drink that enables a man to magnify his joy and his happiness and to forget, if only for a little while, life's great tragedies, and the heartbreaks and sorrows; if you mean that drink, the sale of which pours into our treasuries untold millions of dollars, which are used to provide tender care for our little crippled children, our blind, our deaf, our dumb, our pitiful aged and infirm, to build highways, hospitals, and schools, then certainly I am in favor of it.

Author unknown.

According to former Representative D. R. Billy Matthews, this story was told in the early 1960s by another member of Congress, who did not know the author. It purports to be the reply of a congressman to a constituent who had written the congressman to ask, "Where do you stand on whiskey?"

Alcohol

Drunkenness is the ruin of reason. It is premature old age. It is temporary death.

St. Basil

Homilies.

Alcohol

I believe, if we take habitual drunkards as a class, their heads and their hearts will bear an advantageous comparison with those of any other class.

Abraham Lincoln, address before the Springfield [Illinois] Washingtonian Temperance Society, February 22, 1842.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P Basler, vol. 1, p. 278 (1953).

Alcohol

I intend to die in a tavern; let the wine be placed near my dying mouth, so that when the choirs of angels come, they may say, "God be merciful to this drinker!"

Walter Map [Mapes]

De Nugis Curialium

Alcohol

In vino veritas.

In wine is truth.

Anonymous Latin Proverb

Quoted by Plato, Symposium 217

Alcohol

O thou invisible spirit of wine! if thou hast no name to be known by, let us call thee devil!

William Shakespeare

Othello, II, iii, 285

Alcohol

Sweeter tastes the wine to me in a tavern tankard

Than the watered stuff my Lord Bishop hath decanted.

Archpoet

Confessio

Alcohol

There is as much of a chance of repealing the eighteenth amendment as there is for a humming bird to fly to the planet Mars with the Washington Monument tied to its tail. This country is for temperance and prohibition and it is going to continue to elect members of Congress who believe in that.

Senator Morris Sheppard, as reported by The Washington Post, September 25, 1930, p. 5.

Alcohol

Were I to commence my administration again,…the first question I would askrespecting a candidate would be, "Does he use ardent spirits?"

Attributed to Thomas Jefferson in both Samuel Austin Worcester, Cherokee Almanac, p. 36 (1850), and Charles Noel Douglas, Forty Thousand Quotations, p. 544 (1925). Unverified in Jefferson's writings. Possibly spurious.

Alcohol

When men drink, then they are rich and sucessful and win lawsuits and are happy and help their friends.

Quickly, bring me a breaker of wine, so that I may wet my mind and say something clever.

Aristophanes

Knights, 92

Alcohol

When the hour is nigh me,

Let me in the tavern die,

With a tankard by me.

Archpoet

Confessio

Alcohol

Whisky—I like it, I always did, and that is the reason I never use it.

General Robert E. Lee

Alcohol

You need not hang up the ivy branch over the wine that will sell.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 968

Allegories

A man conversing in earnest, if he watch his intellectual process, will find that a material image, more or less luminous arises in his mind with every thought which furnishes the vestment of the thought. Hence good writing and brilliant discourse are perpetual allegories.

Emerson

Allegories

Allegories are fine ornaments and good illustrations, but not proof.

Luther

Allegories

Allegories, when well chosen, are like so many tracks of light in a discourse, that make everything about them clear and beautiful.

Addison

Allegories

The allegory of a sophist is always screwed; it crouches and bows like a snake, which is never straight, whether she go, creep, or lie still; only when she is dead, she is straight enough.

Luther

Allies

I am most anxious that in dealing with matters which every Member knows are extremely delicate matters, I should not use any phrase or expression which would cause offence to our friends and Allies on the Continent or across the Atlantic Ocean.

Winston Churchill, chancellor of the exchequer, remarks, House of Commons, December 10, 1924.—Parliamentary Debates (Commons), 5th series, vol. 179, col. 259 (1925).

The subject was inter-Allied debts.

Allies

It is not given to us to peer into the mysteries of the future. Still, I vow my hope and faith, sure and inviolate, that in the days to come the British and American peoples will for their own safety and for the good of all walk together side by side in majesty, in justice, and in peace.

Prime Minister Winston Churchill,

speech to a joint session of Congress, Washington, D.C., December 26, 1941.—Winston S. Churchill: His Complete Speeches, 1897-1963, ed. Robert Rhodes James, vol. 6, p. 6541 (1974).

These words, the conclusion of Churchill's speech, were followed by "Prolonged applause, the Members of the Senate and their guests rising," according to the Congressional Record, vol. 87, p. 10119.

Allies

We have no eternal allies, and we have no perpetual enemies. Our interests are eternal and perpetual, and those interests it is our duty to follow.

Lord Palmerston, remarks in the House of Commons defending his foreign policy, March 1, 1848.—Hansards Parliamentary Debates, 3d series, vol. 97, col. 122.

Ambition

A noble man compares and estimates himself by an idea which is higher than himself; and a mean man, by one lower than himself. The one produces aspiration: the other ambition, which is the way in which a vulgar man aspires.

H. W. Beecher

Ambition

All ambitions are lawful except those that climb upward on the miseries or credulities of mankind.

Joseph Conrad (né Korzeniowski)

A Personal Record (1912)

Ambition

Ambition can creep as well as soar.

Burke

Ambition

Ambition drove many men to become false; to have one thought locked in the breast, another ready on the tongue.

Sallust [Gaius Sallustius Crispus]

The War with Catiline, 10

Ambition

Ambition has one heel nailed in well, though she stretch her fingers to tough the heavens.

Lilly

Ambition

Ambition is a lust that is never quenched, but grows more inflamed and madder by enjoyment.

Otway

Ambition

Ambition is an idol on whose wings great minds are carried to extremes, to be sublimely great, or to be nothing.

Southern

Ambition

Ambition is but the evil shadow of aspiration.

G. MacDonald

Ambition

Ambition is like love, impatient both of delays and rivals.

Denham

Ambition

Ambition is not a vice of little people.

Montaigne

Ambition

Ambition is not a weakness unless it be disproportioned to the capacity. To have more ambition than ability is to be at once weak and unhappy.

G. S. Hillard

Ambition

Ambition is so powerful a passion in the human breast, that however high we reach we are never satisfied.

Machiavelli

Ambition

Ambition is the avarice of power; and happiness herself is soon sacrificed to that very lust of dominion which was first encouraged only as the best means of obtaining it.

Colton

Ambition

Ambition is the germ from which all growth of nobleness proceeds.

T. D. English

Ambition

Ambition is the spur that makes man struggle with destiny. It is heaven's own incentive to make purpose great and achievement greater.

Donald G. Mitchell

Ambition

Ambition makes the same mistake concerning power, that avarice makes as to wealth. She begins by accumulating it as a means to happiness, and finishes by continuing to accumulate it as an end.

Colton

Ambition

Ambition often puts men upon doing the meanest offices: so climbing is performed in the same posture as creeping.

Swift

Ambition

Ambition thinks no face so beautiful, as that which looks from under a crown.

Sir P. Sidney

Ambition

Ambition, if you please, means progress. Either we go up or we go out. We do not stand still.

Walter Dill Scott

Ambition

Any man who is unable to change his method and adapt himself to change of conditions, because of closed-mindedness toward progressive improvement and development, lacks ambition. He is dead mentally because his mind is locked or tightly closed against doing anything different. The things we close our minds against today may be taken for granted tomorrow.

Walter Dill Scott

Ambition

As dogs in a wheel, or squirrels in a cage, ambitious men still climb and climb, with great labor and incessant anxiety, but never reach the top.

Burton

Ambition

As he was valiant, I honor him; but, as he was ambitious, I slew him.

William Shakespeare

Julius Caesar, III, ii, 27

Ambition

Fling away ambition. By that sin angels fell. How then can man, the image of his Maker, hope to win by it?

Shakespeare

Ambition

Give me the boy who rouses when he is praised, who profits when he is encouraged and who cries when he is defeated. Such a boy will be fired by ambition; he will be stung by reproach, and animated by preference; never shall I apprehend any bad consequences from idleness in such a boy.

Marcus Fabius Quintilian

Ambition

Great souls, by nature half divine, soar to the stars, and hold a near acquaintance with the gods.

Rowe

Ambition

He who surpasses or subdues mankind, must look down on the hate of those below.

Byron

Ambition

High seats are never but uneasy, and crowns are always stuffed with thorns.

Brooks

Ambition

Hitch your wagon to a star. Let us not fag in paltry works which serve our pot and bag alone.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Society and Solitude

Ambition

How like a mounting devil in the heart rules the unreined ambition.

N. P. Willis

Ambition

I would rather be first in a little Iberian village than second in Rome.

Julius Caesar

Ambition

It is by attempting to reach the top at a single leap, that so much misery is caused in the world.

Cobbett

Ambition

It is the constant fault and inseparable evil quality of ambition, that it never looks behind it.

Seneca

Ambition

It is the nature of ambition to make men liars and cheats who hide the truth in their hearts, and like jugglers, show another thing in their mouths; to cut all friendships and enmities to the measure of their interests, and put on a good face where there is no corresponding good will.

Sallust

Ambition

It will not be amiss to distinguish the three kinds and as it were three grades of ambition in mankind. The first is of those who desire to extend their own power in their native country; which kind is vulgar and degenerate. The second is of those who labor to extend the power of their country and its dominion among men. This certainly has more dignity, though not less covetousness. But if a man endeavor to establish and extend the power and dominion of the human race itself over the universe, his ambition (if ambition it can be called) is without doubt both a more wholesome thing and a more noble than the other two. Now the empire of man over things depends wholly on the arts and sciences. For we cannot command nature except by obeying her.

Francis Bacon

Novum Organum, Aphorism., cxxix.

Ambition

Nothing is too high for the daring of mortals: we storm heaven itself in our folly.

Horace

Ambition

On a dark theme I trace verses full of light, touching all the muses' charm.

Lucretius [Titus Lucretius Carus]

De Rerum Natura, I, 933

Ambition

Say what we will, we may be sure that ambition is an error. Its wear and tear of heart are never recompensed; it steals away the freshness of life; it deadens our vivid and social enjoyments; it shuts our souls to our youth; and we are old ere we remember that we have made a fever and a labor of our raciest years.

Bulwer

Ambition

The noblest spirit is most strongly attracted by the love of glory.

Cicero

Ambition

The slave has but one master, the ambitious man has as many as there are persons whose aid may contribute to the advancement of his fortunes.

Bruyere

Ambition

The tallest trees are most in the power of the winds, and ambitious men of the blasts of fortune.

Penn

Ambition

The very substance of the ambitious is merely the shadow of a dream.

Shakespeare

Ambition

To be ambitious of true honor and of the real glory and perfection of our nature is the very principle and incentive of virtue; but to be ambitious of titles, place, ceremonial respects, and civil pageantry, is as vain and little as the things are which we court.

Sir P. Sidney

Ambition

Too low they build who build below the skies.

Young

Ambition

Too often those who entertain ambition, expel remorse and nature.

Shakespeare

Ambition

When that the poor have cried, Caesar hath wept;

Ambition should be made of sterner stuff.

William Shakespeare

Julius Caesar, III, ii, 97

Ambition

Where ambition can cover its enterprises, even to the person himself, under the appearance of principle, it is the most incurable and inflexible of passions.

Hume

America/Americanism/Americans

America has proved that it is practicable to elevate the mass of mankind—the laboring or lower class—to raise them to self-respect, to make them competent to act a part in the great right and the great duty of self-government; and she has proved that this may be done by education and the diffusion of knowledge. She holds out an example a thousand times more encouraging than ever was presented before to those nine-tenths of the human race who are born without hereditary fortune or hereditary rank.

Daniel Webster

America/Americanism/Americans

America is a fortunate country; she grows by the follies of our European nations.

Napoleon

America/Americanism/Americans

America is a nation of young men.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

America/Americanism/Americans

America is another name for opportunity. Our whole history appears like a last effort of divine Providence in behalf of the human race.

Emerson

America/Americanism/Americans

America is one nation where everyone is presumed innocent—until the president offers him a job.

Wildlife Harvest

America/Americanism/Americans

America is rising with a giant's strength. Its bones are yet but cartilages.

Fisher Ames

America/Americanism/Americans

America is the only nation in history which miraculously has gone directly from barbarism to degeneration without the usual interval of civilization.

Attributed to Georges Clemenceau.—Hans Bendix, "Merry Christmas, America!"

The Saturday Review of Literature, December 1, 1945, p. 9.

America/Americanism/Americans

Americanism means the virtues of courage, honor, justice, truth, sincerity, and hardihood—the virtues that made America. The things that will destroy America are prosperity-at-any-price, peace-at-any-price, safety-first instead of duty-first, the love of soft living and the get-rich-quick theory of life.

Theodore Roosevelt, letter to S. Stanwood Menken, chairman, committee on Congress of Constructive Patriotism, January 10, 1917. Roosevelt's sister, Mrs. Douglas Robinson, read the letter to a national meeting, January 26, 1917.—Proceedings of the Congress of Constructive Patriotism, Washington, D.C., January 25-27, 1917, p. 172 (1917).

America/Americanism/Americans

Americans invent everything, but don't profit by them. They invented the League of Nations but are not in it and cocktails but do not drink them.

Aristide Briand

America/Americanism/Americans

America—….It is a fabulous country, the only fabulous country; it is the only place where miracles not only happen, but where they happen all the time.

Thomas Wolfe, Of Time and the River, book 2, chapter 14, p. 155 (1935).

America/Americanism/Americans

America—half-brother to the world.

Bailey

America/Americanism/Americans

An ordering of society which relegates religion, democracy and good faith among nations to the background can find no place within it for the ideals of the Prince of Peace. The United States rejects such an ordering, and retains its ancient faith.

Franklin D. Roosevelt

America/Americanism/Americans

But America is a great, unwieldy Body. Its Progress must be slow. It is like a large Fleet sailing under Convoy. The fleetest Sailors must wait for the dullest and slowest. Like a Coach and six—the swiftest Horses must be slackened and the slowest quickened, that all may keep an even Pace.

John Adams, letter to Abigail Adams, June 11/June 17, 1775.—Adams Family Correspondence, ed. L. H. Butterfield, vol. 1, p. 216 (1963).

America/Americanism/Americans

Every man among us is more fit to meet the duties and responsibilities of citizenship because of the perils over which, in the past, the nation has triumphed; because of the blood and sweat and tears, the labor and the anguish, through which, in the days that have gone, our forefathers moved on to triumph.

Theodore Roosevelt, assistant secretary of the Navy, speech before the Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island, June 1897.—"Washington's Forgotten Maxim," American Ideals (vol. 13 of The Works of Theodore Roosevelt, national ed.), chapter 12, p. 198 (1926).See No. 411 for the maxim Roosevelt felt had been forgotten.

America/Americanism/Americans

Half the misunderstandings between Britain and America are due to the fact that neither will regard the other as what it is—in an important sense of the word—a foreign country. Each thinks of the other as a part of itself which has somehow gone off the lines…. What would have been pardonable and even commendable in a foreigner is blameworthy in a cousin.

John Buchan

America/Americanism/Americans

He is an American, who, leaving behind him all his ancient prejudices and manners receives new ones from the new mode of life he has embraced, the new government he obeys, and the new rank he holds…. Here individuals of all nations are melted into a new race of men, whose labors and posterity will one day cause great changes in the world.

Michel-Guillaume Jean de Crèvecoeur (1735-1813)

Letters from an American Farmer (1782)

America/Americanism/Americans

I am going home, America—farewell. For seventeen years, I have enjoyed your hospitality, visited every one of your 50 states. I can say I know you well. I admire and love America. It is my second home. What I have to say to you now in parting is both a tribute and a warning: Never forget, Americans, that yours is a spiritual country. Yes, I know that you are a practical people. Like others, I have marveled at your factories, your skyscrapers and you arsenals. But underlying everything else is the fact that America began as a God-loving, God-fearing, God-worshiping people, knowing that there is a spark of the Divine in each one of us. It is this respect for the dignity of the human spirit which makes America invincible. May it always endure. And so I say again in parting, thank you, America, and farewell. May God keep you always—and may you always keep God.

General Carlos P. Romuloe

America/Americanism/Americans

I believe that we are lost here in America, but I believe we shall be found. And this belief, which mounts now to the catharsis of knowledge and conviction, is for me—and I think for all of us—not only our own hope, but America's everlasting, living dream.

Thomas Wolfe, Yon Can't Go Home Again, chapter 48, p. 741 (1940).

America/Americanism/Americans

I cannot say that I am in the slightest degree impressed by your bigness, or your material resources, as such. Size is not grandeur, and territory does not make a nation. The great issue, about which hangs true sublimity, and the terror of overhanging fate, is what are you going to do with all these things?

Thomas Henry Huxley, address on university education delivered at the formal opening of Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, September 12, 1876.—Huxley, American Addresses, p 125 (1877).Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey used the same words in a commencement address at the Holton-Arms School, Bethesda, Maryland, June 1967.—The Washington Post, June 11, 1967, p. K3.

America/Americanism/Americans

I see America, not in the setting sun of a black night of despair ahead of us, I see America in the crimson light of a rising sun fresh from the burning, creative hand of God. I see great days ahead, great days possible to men and women of will and vision—

Carl Sandburg, interview with Frederick Van Ryn, This Week Magazine, January 4, 1953, p. 11. Sandburg had used these words previously at a rally at Madison Square Garden, New York City, October 28, 1952, praising Adlai E. Stevenson during his 1952 presidential campaign.—The Papers of Adlai E. Stevenson, vol. 4, p. 175 (1955).

A similar prediction was made by Benjamin Franklin nearly two centuries earlier in a letter to George Washington, March 5, 1780: "I must soon quit the Scene, but you may live to see our country flourish, as it will amazingly and rapidly after the war is over, like a field of young Indian corn, which long fair weather and Sunshine had enfeebled and discolored, and which in that weak State, by a Thunder Gust, of violent wind, hail, and rain,' seem'd to be threaten'd with absolute destruction; yet the storm being past, it recovers fresh verdure, shoots up with double vigour, and delights the eye, not of its owner only, but of every observing Traveller"—The Writings of Benjamin Franklin, ed. Albert H. Smyth, vol. 8, p. 29 (1907).

America/Americanism/Americans

I was born on July 4, 1776, and the Declaration of Independence is my birth certificate. The bloodlines of the world run in my veins, because I offered freedom to the oppressed. I am many things, and many people. I am the nation.

I am 213 million living souls—and the ghost of millions who have lived and died for me.

I am Nathan Hale and Paul Revere. I stood at Lexington and fired the shot heard around the world. I am Washington, Jefferson and Patrick Henry. I am John Paul Jones, the Green Mountain Boys and Davy Crockett. I am Lee and Grant and Abe Lincoln.

I remember the Alamo, the Maine and Pearl Harbor. When freedom called I answered and stayed until it was over, over there. I left my heroic dead in Flanders Fields, on the rock of Corregidor, on the bleak slopes of Korea and in the steaming jungle of Vietnam.

I am the Brooklyn Bridge, the wheat lands of Kansas and the granite hills of Vermont. I am the coalfields of the Virginias and Pennsylvania, the fertile lands of the West, the Golden Gate and the Grand Canyon. I am Independence Hall, the Monitor and the Merrimac.

I am big. I sprawl from the Atlantic to the Pacific…my arms reach out to embrace Alaska and Hawaii—…3 million square miles throbbing with industry. I am more than 5 million farms. I am forest, field, mountain and desert. I am quiet villages—and cities that never sleep.

You can look at me and see Ben Franklin walking down the streets of Philadelphia with his breadloaf under his arm. You can see Betsy Ross with her needle. You can see the lights of Christmas, and hear the strains of "Auld Lang Syne" as the calendar turns.

I am Babe Ruth and the World Series. I am 110,000 schools and colleges, and 330,000 churches where my people worship God as they think best. I am a ballot dropped in a box, the roar of a crowd in a stadium and the voice of a choir in a cathedral. I am an editorial in a newspaper and a letter to a Congressman.

I am Eli Whitney and Stephen Foster. I am 'Ibm Edison, Albert Einstein and Billy Graham. I am Horace Greeley, Will Rogers and the Wright brothers. I am George Washington Carver, Jonas Salk, and Martin Luther King.

I am Longfellow, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Walt Whitman and Thomas Paine.

Yes, I am the nation, and these are the things that I am. I was conceived in freedom and, God willing, in freedom I will spend the rest of my days.

May I possess always the integrity, the courage and the strength to keep myself unshackled, to remain a citadel of freedom and a beacon of hope to the world.

This is my wish, my goal, my prayer in this year of 1976—two hundred years after I was born.

Otto Whittaker,

"I Am the Nation," Norfolk and Western Railway Company Magazine, January 15, 1976, front cover.

This was originally written in 1955 as a public relations advertisement for the Norfolk and Western Railway, now the Norfolk Southern Corporation, and did not contain the phrase, "the steaming jungle of Vietnam." It has been widely reprinted, generally without attribution, has been set to music, is reprinted by some newspapers every Independence Day, and has been read into the Congressional Record several times. Ellipses in original.

America/Americanism/Americans

If all Europe were to become a prison, America would still present a loop-hole of escape; and, God be praised! that loop-hole is larger than the dungeon itself.

Heine

America/Americanism/Americans

If she [America] forgets where she came from, if the people lose sight of what brought them along, if she listens to the deniers and mockers, then will begin the rot and dissolution.

Carl Sandburg, Remembrance Rock, epilogue, chapter 2, p. 1001 (1948).

America/Americanism/Americans

If these Commentaries shall but inspire in the rising generation a more ardent love of their country, an unquenchable thirst for liberty, and a profound reverence for the constitution and the union, then they will have accomplished all that their author ought to desire. Let the American youth never forget that they possess a noble inheritance, bought by the toils, and sufferings, and blood of their ancestors; and capable, if wisely improved, and faithfully guarded, of transmitting to their latest posterity all the substantial blessings of life, the peaceful enjoyment of liberty, property, religion, and independence. The structure has been erected by architects of consummate skill and fidelity; its foundations are solid; its compartments are beautiful as well as useful; its arrangements are full of wisdom and order; and its defences are impregnable from without. It has been reared for immortality, if the work of man may justly aspire to such a title. It may, nevertheless, perish in an hour by the folly, or corruption, or negligence of its only keepers, THE PEOPLE. Republics are created by the virtue, public spirit, and intelligence of the citizens. They fall, when the wise are banished from the public councils, because they dare to be honest, and the profligate are rewarded, because they flatter the people in order to betray them.

Joseph Story, Commentaries on the Constitution of the United States, 2d ed., vol. 2, chapter 45, p.617 (1851). This passage was not in the first edition, but in all later editions.Justice Story served in Congress 1808-1809.

America/Americanism/Americans

In America the taint of sectarianism lies broad upon the land. The nation is sectarian, rather than Christian.

James Fenimore Cooper (1789-1851)

The American Democrat (1838)

America/Americanism/Americans

In America you must live life with a smile, even before your toothbrush has had time to reach your mouth.

Prince William of Sweden

America/Americanism/Americans

In general, we have been too generous in the gift of office and power…to men who do not understand the genius of America and who have little awareness of the backgrounds of the American way of life…. Most of us will agree that it makes little difference where or when a man was born if he had this vivid sense of American history, if he has learned to put Country

above Party,…if freedom means more than personal security and if he refuses to tolerate appeasement of tyranny as the price of peace.

McIlyar H. Lichliter

America/Americanism/Americans

It may be that without a vision men shall die. It is no less true that, without hard practical sense, they shall also die. Without Jefferson the new nation might have lost its soul. Without Hamilton it would assuredly have been killed in body.

James Truslow Adams, Jeffersonian Principles and Hamiltonian Principles, p. xvii (1932).

America/Americanism/Americans

Joy is a fruit that Americans eat green.

Armando Zegri

America/Americanism/Americans

Many reasons may be assigned for the amazing economic development of the United States…. In my judgment the greatest factor has been…that there was created here in America the largest area in the world in which there were no barriers to the exchange of goods and ideas.

Wendell Willkie

America/Americanism/Americans

Nothing that we could say could add to the impressiveness of the lesson furnished by the events of the past year, as to the needs and the dangerous condition of the neglected classes in our city. Those terrible days in July—the sudden appearance, as if from the bosom of the earth, of a most infuriated and degraded mob; the helplessness of property holders and the better classes;…immense destruction of property—were the first dreadful revelations to many of our people of the existence among us of a great, ignorant, irresponsible class who were growing up here without any permanent interest in the welfare of the community or the success of the government…. It should be remembered that there are no dangers to the value of property, or to the permanency of our institutions, so great as those from the existence of such a class of vagabond, ignorant, and ungoverned children. This "dangerous class" has not begun to show itself as it will in eight or ten years when these boys and girls are matured. Those who were too negligent or too selfish to notice them as children, will be fully aware of them as men. They will vote. They will have the same rights as we ourselves, though they have grown up ignorant of moral principle. . They will poison society. They will perhaps be embittered at the wealth and the luxuries they never share. Then let society beware, when the outcasts, vicious, recKless multitude…swarming now in every foul alley and low street, come to know their power and use it.

CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY,

11th Annual Report, "written in the aftermath of the

draft riots of 1864," according to Senator

Robert F. Kennedy, who quoted from it August 25, 1966.

—Federal Bole in Urban Affairs, hearings before

the Subcommittee on Executive Reorganization

of the Committee on Government Operations,

United States Senate, 89th Congress,

2d session, part 4, p. 919 (1966).

America/Americanism/Americans

Of America it would ill beseem any Englishman, and me perhaps as little as another, to speak unkindly, to speak unpatriotically, if any of us even felt sure enough, America is a great, and in many respects a blessed and hopeful phenomenon. Sure enough, these hardy millions of Anglosaxon men prove themselves worthy of their genealogy…. But as to a Model Republic, or a model anything, the wise among themselves know too well that there is nothing to be said…. Their Constitution, such as it may be, was made here, not there…

Cease to brag to me of America, and its model institutions and constitutions.

Thomas Carlyle, Latter-Day Pamphlets, no. 1, pp. 23, 24 (1850).

America/Americanism/Americans

One of the things that is wrong with America is that everybody who has done anything at all in his own field is expected to be an authority on every subject under the sun.

Elmer Davis

America/Americanism/Americans

Our nation stands at a fork in the political road. In one direction lies a land of slander and scare; the land of sly innuendo, the poison pen, the anonymous phone call and hustling, pushing, shoving; the land of smash and grab and anything to win. This is Nixonland. But I say to you that it is not America.

Adlai E. Stevenson, The New America, ed. Seymour E. Harris, John B. Martin, and Arthur Schlesinger, Jr., p. 249 (1971).These words were written in 1956 during Stevenson's second presidential campaign.

America/Americanism/Americans

Religion, morality, and knowledge, being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged. The utmost good faith shall always be observed towards the Indians; their lands and property shall never be taken from them without their consent; and, in their property, rights, and liberty, they shall never be invaded or disturbed, unless in just and lawful wars authorized by Congress; but laws founded in justice and humanity, shall from time to time be made for preventing wrongs being done to them, and for preserving peace and friendship with them.

Northwest Ordinance, 1787, article 3.—Henry Steele Commager, ed., Documents of American History, p. 131 (1934).

America/Americanism/Americans

So, then, to every man his chance—to every man, regardless of his birth, his shining, golden opportunity—to every man the right to live, to work, to be himself, and to become whatever thing his manhood and his vision can combine to make him—this, seeker, is the promise of America.

Thomas Wolfe, You Can't Go Home Again, chapter 31, p. 508 (1940).

America/Americanism/Americans

The American may not be a materialist but he has certainly hallowed commercialism, and made of it both a romantic and a moral adventure.

Agnes Repplier

America/Americanism/Americans

The chief novelty America has added to the parliamentary practice of liberalism is the reverence accorded the courts in the direction of police. The minimum function of the courts in government has also been the maximum function in most liberal countries.

T. V. Smith

America/Americanism/Americans

The educated American is profoundly skeptical about machines, inclined to regard every invention as obsolescent as soon as it has been made, but naively trustful about political paltitudes or philosophical half-truths.

Lord Eustace Percy

America/Americanism/Americans

The great voice of America does not come from the seats of learning, but in a murmur from the hills and the woods and the farms and the factories and the mills, rolling on and gaining volume until it comes to us the voice from the homes of the common men. Do these murmurs come into the corridors of the university? I have not heard them.

Woodrow Wilson, president of Princeton, address to Princeton University alumni, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, April 17, 1910.—The Papers of Woodrow Wilson, ed. Arthur S. Link, vol. 20, p. 365 (1975).

America/Americanism/Americans

The home of freedom, and the hope of the down-trodden and oppressed among the nations of the earth.

Daniel Webster

America/Americanism/Americans

The home of the homeless all over the earth.

Street

America/Americanism/Americans

The metaphor of the melting pot is unfortunate and misleading. A more accurate analogy would be a salad bowl, for, though the salad is an entity, the lettuce can still be distinguished from the chicory, the tomatoes from the cabbage.

Carl N. Degler, Out of Our Past: The Forces That Shaped Modern America, rev. ed., chapter 10, section 4, p. 296 (1970).

America/Americanism/Americans

The real democratic American idea is not that every man shall be on a level with every other, but that everyone shall have liberty, without hindrance, to be what God made him.

Henry Ward Beecher

America/Americanism/Americans

The reason American cities are prosperous is that there is no place to sit down.

Alfred J. Talley

America/Americanism/Americans

The surface of American society is covered with a layer of democratic paint, but from time to time one can see the old aristocratic colors breaking through.

Alexis de Tocqueville, Democracy in America, ed. J. P. Mayer, trans. George Lawrence, vol. 1, part 1, chapter 2, p. 49 (1969). Originally published in 1835-1840.

America/Americanism/Americans

This is what I call the American idea, a government of the people, by the people, and for the people—a government of the principles of eternal justice, the unchanging law of God.

Theodore Parker

America/Americanism/Americans

Those of us who shout the loudest about Americanism in making character assassinations are all too frequently those who, by our own words and acts, ignore some of the basic principles of Americanism—

The right to criticize.

The right to hold unpopular beliefs.

The right to protest.

The right of independent thought.

Senator Margaret Chase Smith, remarks in the Senate, June 1, 1950, Congressional Record, vol. 96, p. 7894.She added, "The American people are sick and tired of being afraid to speak their minds lest they be politically smeared as Communists or Fascists by their opponents." These and other remarks preceded the Declaration of Conscience (p. 7895), which she drafted and in which she was joined by six other Republican Senators.

America/Americanism/Americans

To make it possible for our children, and for our children's children, to live in a world of peace. To make this country be more than ever a land of opportunity—of equal opportunity, full opportunity for every American. To provide jobs for all who can work, and generous help for those who cannot work. To establish a climate of decency and civility, in which each person respects the feelings and the dignity and the God-given rights of his neighbor. To make this a land in which each person can dare to dream, can live his dreams—ùnot in fear, but in hope—proud of his community, proud of his country, proud of what America has meant to himself and to the world.

President Richard M. Nixon, address to the nation about the Watergate investigations, April 30, 1973.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Richard Nixon, 1973, p. 332.Nixon listed "some of my goals for my second term as President."

America/Americanism/Americans

To me, the irony of this involvement with size, as I observed earlier, is the unwillingness or inability of so many Americans to identify themselves with something as vast as the United States. Bigger cars, bigger parking lots, bigger corporate structures, bigger farms, bigger drug stores, bigger supermarkets, bigger motion-picture screens. The tangible and the functional expand, while the intangible and the beautiful shrink. Left to wither is the national purpose, national educational needs, literature and theater, and our critical faculties. The national dialogue is gradually being lost in a froth of misleading self-congratulation and cliche. National needs and interests are slowly being submerged by the national preoccupation with the irrelevant.

Senator J. William Fulbright, "In Need of a Consensus," Penrose Memorial Lecture, delivered to the American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, April 20, 1961.—Proceedings of the Society, August 1961, p. 352.

America/Americanism/Americans

To us Americans much has been given; of us much is required. With all our faults and mistakes, it is our strength in support of the freedom our forefathers loved which has saved mankind from subjection to totalitarian power.

Norman Thomas

America/Americanism/Americans

Unearned security during a long century had the effect upon our national habits of mind which the lazy enjoyment of unearned income so often has upon the descendants of a hard-working grandfather. It caused us to forget that man has to earn his security and his liberty as he has to earn his living.

Walter Lippmann

America/Americanism/Americans

We are proud still to call ours a young nation. Hence we forget what we should remember: Our nation under the present Constitution has had a longer life unchallenged and unchanged by violent rebellion than any great nation on earth except Great Britain.

Norman Thomas

America/Americanism/Americans

We cannot expect that everyone, to use the phrase of a decade ago, will "talk sense to the American people." But we can hope that fewer people will listen to nonsense. And the notion that this nation is headed for defeat through deficit, or that strength is but a matter of slogans, is nothing but just plain nonsense.

President John F. Kennedy, remarks prepared for delivery at the Trade Mart in Dallas, Texas, November 22, 1963.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: John F Kennedy, 1963, p. 891.This speech was never delivered. President Kennedy was on his way to the Trade Mart when he was assassinated.

Kennedy referred to Adlai E. Stevenson's slogan from the 1952 presidential election campaign, No. 85.

America/Americanism/Americans

We defend and we build a way of life, not for America alone, but for all mankind.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt, fireside chat on national defense, May 26, 1940.—The Public Papers and Addresses of Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1940, p. 240 (1941).This sentence is one of many quotations inscribed on Cox Corridor II, a first floor House corridor, U.S. Capitol.

America/Americanism/Americans

We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of Heaven. We have been preserved, these many years, in peace and prosperity. We have grown in numbers, wealth and power, as no other nation has ever grown. But we have forgotten God. We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace, and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us; and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own, intoxicated with unbroken success, we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us!

President Abraham Lincoln, proclamation appointing a National Fast Day, March 30, 1863.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P Basler, vol. 6, p. 156 (1953).

America/Americanism/Americans

We have now at last grasped the hardest of all the truths this nation has had to learn; however remote the aggression, however distant the social or economic disasters that afflict other peoples, sooner or later we ourselves will feel their impact.

Sumner Welles

America/Americanism/Americans

What then is the American, this new man? He is either an European, or the descendant of an European, hence that strange mixture of blood, which you will find in no other country.

J. Hector St. John Crevecoeur, "What Is an American," Letters from an American Farmer, p. 54 (1782, reprinted 1925).

America/Americanism/Americans

What's right with America is a willingness to discuss what's wrong with America.

Harry L. Barnes

America/Americanism/Americans

When God made the oyster, he guaranteed his absolute economic and social security. He built the oyster a house, his shell, to shelter and protect him from his enemIes. . But when God made the Eagle, He declared, "The blue sky is the limit—build your own house!"…. The Eagle, not the oyster, is the emblem of America.

Author unknown.—Jacob M. Braude, Braude's Source Book for Speakers and Writers, p. 14 (1968).

America/Americanism/Americans

A thousand years hence, perhaps in less, America may be what Europe is now…the noblest work of human wisdom, the grand scene of human glory, the fair cause of freedom that rose and fell.

Thomas Paine

America/Americanism/Americans

I believe that the heaviest blow ever dealt at liberty's head will be dealt by this nation [the United States] in the ultimate failure of its example to the earth.

Charles Dickens

America/Americanism/Americans

I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just.

Thomas Jefferson

America/Americanism/Americans

The American experiment is the most tremendous and far reaching engine of social change which has ever either blessed or cursed mankind.

Charles Francis Adams

America/Americanism/Americans

The American is a new man who acts upon new principles; he must therefore entertain new ideas, and form new opinions. From involuntary idleness, servile dependency, penury, and useless labor, he has passed to toils of a very different nature, rewarded by ample subsistence—this is an American.

Michel-Guillaume Jean de Crèvecoeur (1735-1813)

Letters from an American Farmer (1782)

America/Americanism/Americans

The only foes that threaten America are the enemies at home, and these are ignorance, superstition, and incompetence.

Elbert Hubbard

America/Americanism/Americans

This will never be a civilized country until we spend more money for books than we do for chewing gum.

Elbert Hubbard

America/Americanism/Americans

Americans cleave to the things of this world as if assured that they will never die,….They clutch everything but hold nothing fast, and so lose grip as they hurry after some new delight. An American will build a house in which to pass his old age and sell it before the roof is on; he will plant a garden and rent it just as the trees are coming into bearing; he will clear a field and leave others to reap the harvest; he will take up a profession and leave it, settle in one place and soon go off elsewhere with his changing desires. If his private business allows him a moment's relaxation, he will plunge at once into the whirlpool of politics. Then, if at the end of a year crammed with work he has a little spare leisure, his restless curiosity goes with him traveling up and down the vast territories of the United States. Thus he will travel five hundred miles in a few days as a distraction from his happiness. Death steps in in the end and stops him before he has grown tired of this futile pursuit of that complete felicity which always escapes him. At first sight there is something astonishing in this spectacle of so many lucky men restless in the midst of abundance. But it is a spectacle as old as the world; all that is new is to see a whole people performing in it.

Alexis de Tocqueville, Democracy in America, ed. J. P Mayer, trans. George Lawrence, vol. 2, part 2, chapter 13, p. 536 (1969). Originally published in 1835-1840.

America/Americanism/Americans

Americans never quit.

General Douglas Macarthur, president of the American Olympic committee, comment when the manager of the American boxing team in the 1928 Olympic games wanted to withdraw the team because of what he thought was an unfair decision against an American boxer.—The New York Times, August 9, 1928, p. 13.

America/Americanism/Americans

For the American people are a very generous people and will forgive almost any weakness, with the possible exception of stupidity.

Will Rogers, The Illiterate Digest, p. 228 (1924).

America/Americanism/Americans

Good Americans, when they die, go to Paris.

Oliver Wendell Holmes,

The Autocrat of the Breakfast-Table,

chapter 6, p. 143 (1868),

originally published 1858, attributing this

remark to "one of the wittiest of men."

Later writers have attributed the saying

to Thomas Gold Appleton, a friend of Holmes's

and a fellow member of the Saturday Club.

In 1859, Ralph Waldo Emerson, also a member of that club,

recorded in one of his journals, "T. Appleton says, that he thinks

all Bostonians, when they die, if they are good, go to Paris."

—Emerson in His Journals, ed. Joel Porte, p. 486 (1982).

Although neither sentence has been found in the published writings

of Appleton, the remark was probably made in the

presence of Holmes and Emerson.

Oscar Wilde used Holmes's version of the statement

in two of his works, The Picture of Dorian Gray, p. 75

(Complete Works, vol. 4, 1923), originally published

1890, and A Woman of No Importance, p. 180

(Complete Works, vol. 7, 1923), originally published 1893.

America/Americanism/Americans

Has it [popular sovereignty] not got down as thin as the homeopathic soup that was made by boiling the shadow of a pigeon that had starved to death?

Abraham Lincoln, rejoinder in the sixth debate with Senator Stephen A. Douglas, October 13, 1858.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P Basler, vol. 3, p. 279 (1953).

America/Americanism/Americans

I do not choose to be a common man. It is my right to be uncommon—if I can. I seek opportunity—not security. I do not wish to be a kept citizen, humbled and dulled by having the state look after me. I want to take the calculated risk; to dream and to build, to fail and to succeed. I refuse to barter incentive for a dole. I prefer the challenges of life to the guaranteed existence; the thrill of fulfillment to the stale calm of utopia. I will not trade freedom for beneficence nor my dignity for a handout. I will never cower before any master nor bend to any threat. It is my heritage to stand erect, proud and unafraid; to think and act for myself, enjoy the benefit of my creations, and to face the world boldly and say, this I have done. All this is what it means to be an American.

Dean Alfange, creed.—Who's Who in America, 1984-85, vol. 1, p. 42. These words have appeared at the end of his entry in several successive editions.

Originally published in This Week Magazine. Later reprinted in The Reader's Digest, October 1952, p. 10, and January 1954, p. 122, lacking these words: "I will never cower before any master nor bend to any threat" and "to stand erect, proud and unafraid."

America/Americanism/Americans

I do not want a honeymoon with you. I want a good marriage. I want progress, and I want problemsolving which requires my best efforts and also your best efforts. I have no need to learn how Congress speaks for the people. As President, I intend to listen. But I also intend to listen to the people themselves—all the people—as I promised last Friday. I want to be sure that we are all tuned in to the real voice of America.

President Gerald R. Ford, address to a joint session of Congress, August 12, 1974.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Gerald R. Ford, 1974, p. 7.

America/Americanism/Americans

I think very much of the people, as an old friend said he thought of woman. He said when he lost his first wife, who had been a great help to him in his business, he thought he was ruined—that he could never find another to fill her place. At length, however, he married another, who he found did quite as well as the first, and that his opinion now was that any woman would do well who was well done by. So I think of the whole people of this nation—they will ever do well if well done by. We will try to do well by them in all parts of the country, North and South, with entire confidence that all will be well with all of us.

President-elect Abraham Lincoln, remarks at Bloomington, Illinois, November 21, 1860.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P. Basler, vol. 4, pp. 143-44 (1953).

America/Americanism/Americans

Is it not the glory of the people of America, that, whilst they have paid a decent regard to the opinions of former times and other nations, they have not suffered a blind veneration for antiquity, for custom, or for names, to overrule the suggestions of their own good sense, the knowledge of their own situation, and the lessons of their own experience? To this manly spirit, posterity will be indebted for the possession, and the world for the example, of the numerous innovations displayed on the American theatre, in favor of private rights and public happiness.

James Madison, The Federalist, ed. Benjamin F. Wright, no. 14, p. 154 (1961). This quotation was used on the official invitations to the 1985 presidential inaugural of President Ronald Reagan.

America/Americanism/Americans

Let's face it. Let's talk sense to the American people. Let's tell them the truth, that there are no gains without pains, that we are now on the eve of great decisions, not easy decisions, like resistance when you're attacked, but a long, patient, costly struggle which alone can assure triumph over the great enemies of man—war, poverty and tyranny—and the assaults upon human dignity which are the most grievous consequences of each.

Adlai E. Stevenson, governor of Illinois, speech accepting presidential nomination, Democratic national convention, Chicago, Illinois, July 26, 1952.—Speeches of Adlai Stevenson, pp. 20-21 (1952).

America/Americanism/Americans

Parties do not maintain themselves. They are maintained by effort. The government is not self-existent. It is maintained by the effort of those who believe in it. The people of America believe in American institutions, the American form of government and the American method of transacting business.

Calvin Coolidge, governor of Massachusetts, speech before the Republican Commercial 'Travelers' Club, Boston, Massachusetts, April 10, 1920.—Massachusetts State Library, George Fingold Library, Boston. Manuscripts: speeches and messages of Calvin Coolidge, 1895-1924.

America/Americanism/Americans

Races didn't bother the Americans. They were something a lot better than any race. They were a People. They were the first self-constituted, self-declared, self-created People in the history of the world. And their manners were their own business. And so were their politics. And so, but ten times so, were their souls.

Archibald Macleish, Librarian of Congress, "The American Cause" address delivered at Faneuil Hall, Boston, Massachusetts, November 20, 1940.—MacLeish, A Time to Act; Selected Addresses, p. 115 (1943).

America/Americanism/Americans

Sir, since the debate opened months ago those of us who have stood against this proposition have been taunted many times with being little Americans. Leave us the word American, keep that in your presumptuous impeachment, and no taunt can disturb us, no gibe discompose our purposes. Call us little Americans if you will, but leave us the consolation and the pride which the term American, however modified, still imparts.

Senator William E. Borah, remarks in the Senate, November 19, 1919, Congressional Record, vol. 58, p. 8783.This speech, known as the "Little American" speech, referred to the treaty to ratify the League of Nations proposed after World War I.

America/Americanism/Americans

The average American is just like the child in the family. You give him some responsibility and he is going to amount to something. He is going to do something. If, on the other hand, you make him completely dependent and pamper him and cater to him too much, you are going to make him soft, spoiled and eventually a very weak individual.

President Richard M. Nixon, interview with Garnett D. Horner following election to a second presidential term, The Washington Star-News, November 9, 1972, p. 1.

America/Americanism/Americans

The people of those foreign countries are very, very ignorant. They looked curiously at the costumes we had brought from the wilds of America. They observed that we talked loudly at table sometimes. They noticed that we looked out for expenses and got what we conveniently could out of a franc, and wondered where in the mischief we came from. In Paris they just simply opened their eyes and stared when we spoke to them in French! We never did succeed in making those idiots understand their own language.

Mark Twain (Samuel L. Clemens), letter appearing in the New York Herald, November 20, 1867, the day after he arrived in New York on the steamer Quaker City.—Traveling with the Innocents Abroad; Mark Twain's Original Reports from Europe and the Holy Land, ed. Daniel M. McKeithan, p. 316 (1958). Twain later revised the 58 letters written on the trip and turned them into The Innocents Abroad, where this quotation appears in "A Newspaper Valedictory," vol. 2 of The Writings of Mark Twain, p. 437 (1897, reprinted 1968).

America/Americanism/Americans

The people reign over the American political world as God rules over the universe. It is the cause and the end of all things; everything rises out of it and is absorbed back into it.

Alexis de Tocqueville, Democracy in America, ed. J. P Mayer, trans. George Lawrence, vol. 1, part 1, chapter 4, concluding sentences, p. 60 (1969). Originally published in 1835-1840.

Amiability

Amiable people, though often subject to imposition in their contact with the world, yet radiate so much of sunshine that they are reflected in all appreciative hearts.

Deluzy

Amiability

How easy to be amiable in the midst of happiness and success.

Madame Swetchine

Amiability

The constant desire of pleasing which is the peculiar quality of some, may be called the happiest of all desires in this that it rarely fails of attaining its end when not disgraced by affectation.

Fielding

Amiability

To be amiable is most certainly a duty but it is not to be exercised at the expense of any virtue. He who seeks to do the amiable always can at times be successful only by the sacrifice of his manhood.

Simms

Amusements

All amusements to which virtuous women are not admitted, are, rely upon it, deleterious in their nature.

Thackeray

Amusements

Amusement is the waking sleep of labor. When it absorbs thought, patience, and strength that might have been seriously employed, it loses its distinctive character and becomes the task-master of idleness.

Wilmott

Amusements

Amusement that is excessive and followed only for its own sake, allures and deceives us, and leads us down imperceptibly in thoughtlessness to the grave.

Pascal

Amusements

Amusement to an observing mind is study.

Disraeli

Amusements

Amusements are to religion like breezed of air to the flame, gentle ones will fan it, but strong ones will put it out.

Thomas

Amusements

Christian discipleship does not involve the abandonment of any innocent enjoyment. Any diversion or amusement which we can use so as to receive pleasure and enjoyment to ourselves, and do no harm to others, we have no right to use, whether we are Christians or not.

A. Gladden

Amusements

Dwell not too long upon sports: for as they refresh a man that is weary, so they weary a man that is refreshed.

Fuller

Amusements

I am a great friend to public amusements, for they keep people from vice.

Johnson

Amusements

If those who are the enemies of innocent amusements had the direction of the world, they would take away the spring and youth, the former from the year, the latter from human life.

Balzac

Amusements

If you are animated by right principles, and are fully awakened to the true dignity of life, the subject of amusements may be left to settle itself.

T. T. Munger

Amusements

Innocent amusements are such as excite moderately, and such as produce a cheerful frame of mind, not boisterous mirth; such as refresh, instead of exhausting, the system; such as recur frequently, rather than continue long; such as send us back to our daily duties invigorated in body and spirit; such as we can partake of in the presence and society of respectable friends; such as consist with and are favorable to a grateful piety; such as are chastened by self-respect, and are accompanied with the consciousness that life has a higher end than to be amused.

Channing

Amusements

It is a sober truth that people who live only to amuse themselves, work harder at the task than most people do in earning their daily bread.

H. More

Amusements

It is doing some service to humanity, to amuse innocently. They know but little of society who think we can bear to be always employed, either in duties or meditation, without relaxation.

H. More

Amusements

It is exceedingly deleterious to withdraw the sanction of religion from amusement. If we feel that it is all injurious we should strip the earth of its flowers and blot out its pleasant sunshine.

E. H. Chapin

Amusements

Joining in the amusements of others is, in our social state, the next thing to sympathy in their distresses, and even the slenderest bond that holds society together should rather be strengthened than snapt.

Landor

Amusements

Let the world have whatever sports and recreations please them best, provided they be followed with discretion.

Burton

Amusements

The church has been so fearful of amusements that the devil has had the charge of them; the chaplet of flowers has been snatched from the brow of Christ, and given to Mammon.

H. W. Beecher

Amusements

The habit of dissipating every serious thought by a succession of agreeable sensations is as fatal to happiness as to virtue; for when amusement is uniformly substituted for objects of moral and mental interest, we lose all that elevates our enjoyments above the scale of childish pleasures.

Anna Maria Porter

Analogy

Analogy, although it is not infallible, is yet that telescope of the mind by which it is marvelously assisted in the discovery of both physical and moral truth.

Colton

Analogy

Those who reason only by analogies, rarely reason by logic, and are generally slaves to imagination.

C. Simmons

Analysis

Analysis kills spontaneity. The grain once ground into flour springs and germinates no more.

Henri Frederic Amiel

Anarchy

Anarchy is hatred of human authority; atheism of divine authority—two sides of the same whole.

Macpherson

Anarchy

Anarchy is the choking, sweltering, deadly, and killing rule of no rule; the consecration of cupidity and braying of folly and dim stupidity and baseness, in most of the affairs of men. Slop-shirts attainable three half-pence cheaper by the ruin of living bodies and immortal souls.

Carlyle

Anarchy

Burke talked of "that digest of anarchy called the Rights of Man."

Alison

Ancestry

I have often noticed that

ancestors never boast

of the descendants who boast

of ancestors I would

rather start a family than

finish one blood will tell but often

it tells too much

Don Marquis,

"A Roach of the Taverns," Archy and Mehitabel, pp. 156-57 (1927, reprinted 1930).

Ancestry

A grandfather is no longer a social institution.—Men do not live in the past.—They merely look back.—Forward is the universal cry.

Walter Scott

Ancestry

A spirit of innovation is generally the result of a selfish temper and confined views. People will not look forward to posterity, who never look backward to their ancestors. Besides, the people of England well know that the idea of inheritance furnishes a sure principle of conservation, and a sure principle of transmission, without at all excluding a principle of improvement. It leaves acquisition free; but it secures what it acquires.

Edmund Burke

Reflections on the Revolution in France, 1790.

Ancestry

All history shows the power of blood over circumstances, as agriculture shows the power of the seeds over the soil.

E. P. Whipple

Ancestry

Birth is nothing where virtue is not.

Molière

Ancestry

Breed is stronger than pasture.

George Eliot

Ancestry

Consider whether we ought not to be more in the habit of seeking honor from our descendants than from our ancestors; thinking it better to be noble remembered than noble born; and striving so to live, that our sons, and our sons' sons, for ages to come, might still lead their children reverently to the doors out of which we had been carried to the grave, saying, "Look, that was his house, this was his chamber."

Ruskin

Ancestry

Distinguished birth is like a cipher: it has no power in itself like wealth, or talent, or personal excellence, but it tells, with all the power of a cipher, when added to either of the others.

Boyes

Ancestry

Every man is his own ancestor, and every man is his own heir. He devises his own future, and he inherits his own past.

Frederick H. Hedge

Ancestry

Good blood—descent from the great and good, is a high honor and privilege. He that lives worthily of it is deserving of the highest esteem; he that does not, of the deeper disgrace.

Colton

Ancestry

He that can only boast of a distinguished lineage, boasts of that which does not belong to himself; but he that lives worthily of it is always held in the highest honor.

Junius

Ancestry

Honorable descent is, in all nations, greatly esteemed. It is to be expected that the children of men of worth will be like their progenitors; for nobility is the virtue of a family.

Aristotle

Ancestry

How poor are all hereditary honors, those poor possessions from another's deeds, unless our own just virtues form our title, and give a sanction to our fond assumption.

Shirley

Ancestry

I am no herald to inquire after men's pedigrees: it sufficeth me if I know of their virtues.

Sir P. Sidney

Ancestry

I will not borrow merit from the dead, myself an undeserver.

Rowe

Ancestry

It is a noble faculty of our nature which enables us to connect our thoughts, sympathies, and happiness, with what is distant in place or time; and looking before and after, to hold communion at once with our ancestors and our posterity. There is a moral and philosophical respect for our ancestors, which elevates the character and improves the heart. Next to the sense of religious duty and moral feeling, I hardly know what should bear with stronger obligation on a liberal and enlightened mind, than a consciousness of an alliance with excellence which is departed; and a consciousness, too, that in its acts and conduct, and even in its sentiments and thoughts, it may be actively operating on the happiness of those that come after it.

Daniel Webster

Ancestry

It is a shame for a man to desire honor only because of his noble progenitors, and not to deserve it by his own virtue.

Chrysostom

Ancestry

It is fortunate to come of distinguished ancestry.—It is not less so to be such that people do not care to inquire whether you are of high descent or not.

Bruyere

Ancestry

It is indeed desirable to be well descended, but the glory belongs to our ancestors.

Plutarch

Morals. Of the Training of Children

Ancestry

It is of no consequence of what parents a man is born, so he be a man of merit.

Horace

Ancestry

It is the highest of earthly honors to be descended from the great and good. They alone cry out against a noble ancestry who have none of their own.

Ben Jonson

Ancestry

It is with antiquity as with ancestry, nations are proud of the one, and individuals of the other; but if they are nothing in themselves, that which is their pride ought to be their humiliation.

Colton

Ancestry

It is, indeed, a blessing, when the virtues of noble races are hereditary.

Nabb

Ancestry

It would be more honorable to our distinguished ancestors to praise them in words less, but in deeds to imitate them more.

Horace Mann

Ancestry

Mere family never made a man great.—Thought and deed, not pedigree, are the passports to enduring fame.

Skobeleff

Ancestry

Nobility of birth does not always insure a corresponding nobility of mind; if it did, it would always act as a stimulus to noble actions; but it sometimes acts as a clog rather than a spur.

Colton

Ancestry

Nothing is more disgraceful than for a man who is nothing, to hold himself honored on account of his forefathers; and yet hereditary honors are a noble and splendid treasure to descendants.

Plato

Ancestry

Philosophy does not regard pedigree. She did not receive Plato as a noble, but made him so.

Seneca

Ancestry

Pride in boasting of family antiquity, makes duration stand for merit.

Zimmermann

Ancestry

Some decent, regulated pre-eminence, some preference given to birth, is neither unnatural nor unjust nor impolitic.

Burke

Ancestry

Some men by ancestry are only the shadow of a mighty name.

Lucan

Ancestry

The environment fosters and selects; the seed must contain the potentiality and direction of the life to be selected.

George Santayana

Ancestry

The glory of ancestors sheds a light around posterity; it allows neither their good nor their bad qualities to remain in obscurity.

Sallust

Ancestry

The inheritance of a distinguished and noble name is a proud inheritance to him who lives worthily of it.

Colton

Ancestry

The man of the true quality is not the man who labels himself with genealogical tables, and lives on the reputation of his fathers, but he in whose conversation and behavior there are references and characteristics positively unaccountable except on the hypothesis that his descent is pure and illustrious.

Theodore Parker

Ancestry

The man who has nothing to boast of but his illustrious ancestors is like a potato—the only good belonging to him is underground.

Sir Thomas Overbury

Ancestry

The origin of all mankind was the same: it is only a clear and a good conscience that makes a man noble, for that is derived from heaven itself.

Seneca

Ancestry

The pride of blood has a most important and beneficial influence. It is much to feel that the high and honorable belong to a name that is pledged to the present by the recollections of the past.

L. E. Landon

Ancestry

They that on glorious ancestors enlarge, produce their debt, instead of their discharge.

Young

Ancestry

They who depend on the merits of ancestors, search in the roots of the tree for the fruits which the branches ought to produce.

Isaac Barrow

Ancestry

Think of your forefathers! Think of your posterity!

John Quincy Adams

Ancestry

Title and ancestry render a good man more illustrious, but an ill one more contemptible.

Addison

Ancestry

We descend from Jove; in ancestral Jove Troy's sons rejoice.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aeneid, VII, 219

Ancestry

We take rank by descent. Such of us as have the longest pedigree, and are therefore the furthest removed from the first who made the fortune and founded the family, we are the noblest.

Froude

Ancestry

We will inherit nothing truly, but what our actions make us worthy of.

Chapman

Ancestry

What can we see in the longest kingly line in Europe, save that it runs back to a successful soldier?

Walter Scott

Ancestry

When real nobleness accompanies the imaginary one of birth, the imaginary mixes with the real and becomes real too.

Breville

Anecdotes

Anecdotes and maxims are rich treasures to the man of the world, for he knows how to introduce the former at fit places in conversation, and to recollect the latter on proper occasion.

Goethe

Anecdotes

Anecdotes are sometimes the best vehicles of truth, and if striking and appropriate are often more impressive and powerful than argument.

Tyron Edwards

Anecdotes

Occasionally a single anecdote opens a character; biography has its comparative anatomy, and a saying or a sentiment enables the skillful hand to construct the skeleton.

Wilmott

Anecdotes

Some people exclaim, "Give me no anecdotes of an author, but give me his works"; and yet I have often found that the anecdotes are more interesting than the works.

Disraeli

Anecdotes

Story-telling is a subject to two unavoidable defects: frequent repetition and being soon exhausted; so that whoever values this gift in himself, has need of a good memory, and ought frequently to shift his company.

Swift

Angels

Millions of spiritual creatures walk the earth unseen, both when we sleep and when we wake.

Milton

Angels

The angels may have wider spheres of action and nobler forms of duty than ourselves, but truth and right to them and to us are one and the same thing.

E. H. Chapin

Angels

The guardian angels of life sometimes fly so high as to be beyond our sight, but they are always looking down upon us.

Richter

Anger

A man that does not know how to be angry, does not know how to be good. Now and then a man should be shaken to the core with indignation over things evil.

H. W. Beecher

Anger

A man…makes his inferiors his superiors by heat.

R. W. Emerson

Anger

Act nothing in a furious passion. It's putting to sea in a storm.

Thomas Fuller

Anger

All anger is not sinful, because some degree of it, and on some occasions, is inevitable. But it becomes sinful and contradicts the rule of Scripture when it is conceived upon slight and inadequate provocation, and when it continues long.

Paley

Anger

An angry man is again angry with himself when he returns to reason.

Publilius Syrus

Anger

Anger begins in folly, and ends in repentance.

Pythagoras

Anger

Anger blows out the lamp of the mind. In the examination of a great and important question, everyone should be serene, slow-pulsed and calm.

Robert G. Ingersoll

Anger

Anger is a noble infirmity; the generous failing of the just; the one degree that riseth above zeal, asserting the prerogative of virtue.

Tupper

Anger

Anger is a weed; hate is the tree.

St. Augustine

Sermons 58

Anger

Anger is an expensive luxury in which only men of a certain income can indulge.

G. W. Curtis

Anger

Anger is as a stone cast into a wasp's nest.

Malabar Proverb

Anger

Anger is like those ruins which smash themselves on what they fall.

Seneca

Anger

Anger is one of the sinews of the soul; he that wants it hath a maimed mind.

Thomas Fuller

Anger

Anger is one of the sinews of the Soul; he that wants it hath a maimed mind.

Thomas Fuller (1608-1661)

The Holy State and the Profane State (1642)

Bk. III, ch. viii, "Of Anger"

Anger

Anger is the most impotent of passions. It effects nothing it goes about, and hurts the one who is possessed by it more than the one against whom it is directed.

Clarendon

Anger

Anger may be kindled in the noblest breasts: but in these slow droppings of an unforgiving temper never takes the shape of consistency of enduring hatred.

G. S. Hillard

Anger

Anger ventilated often hurries towards forgiveness; anger concealed often hardens into revenge.

Bulwer

Anger

Anger, even when it punishes the faults of delinquents, ought not to precede reason as its mistress, but attend as a handmaid at the back of reason, to come to the front when bidden. For once it begins to take control of the mind, it calls just what it does cruelly.

St. Gregory the Great

Anger

Anger, if not restrained, is frequently more hurtful to us than the injury that provokes it.

Seneca

Anger

Anger: an acid that can do more harm to the vessel in which it is stored than to anything on which it is poured.

Seneca

Anger

Anybody can become angry—that is easy; but to be angry with the right person, and to the right degree, and at the right time, and for the right purpose, and in the right way—that is not within everybody's power and is not easy.

Aristotle

Nicomachean Ethics.

Anger

Beware of him that is slow to anger; for when it is long coming, it is the stronger when it comes, and the longer kept. Abused patience turns to fury.

Quarles

Anger

Can heavenly minds yield to such rage?

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aeneid, I, 11

Anger

Consider how much more you often suffer from your anger and grief, than from those very things for which you are angry and grieved.

Marcus Antoninus

Anger

Consider, when you are enraged at any one, what you would probably think if he should die during the dispute.

Shenstone

Anger

Do not teach your children never to be angry; teach them how to be angry and sin not.

Lymann Abbott

Anger

Every great sin ought to rouse a great anger. Mob law is better than no law at all. A community which rises in its wrath to punish with misdirected anger a great wrong is in a healthier moral condition than a community which looks upon its perpetration with apathy and unconcern.

Lymann Abbott

Anger

For then, in wrath, the Olympian Pericles

Thundered and lightened, and confounded Hellas

Enacting laws which ran like drinking songs.

Aristophanes

Acharnians, 530

Anger

He best keeps from anger who remembers that God is always looking upon him.

Plato

Anger

He that would be angry and sin not, must not be angry with anything but sin.

Secker

Anger

He used to raise a storm in a teapot.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

De Legibus, III, 16

Anger

He who can suppress a moment's anger may prevent a day of sorrow.

To rule one's anger is well; to prevent it is still better

Tyron Edwards

Anger

If a man meets with injustice, it is not required that he shall not be roused to meet it; but if he is angry after he has had time to think upon it, that is sinful. The flame is not wring, but the coals are.

H. W. Beecher

Anger

In a controversy the instant we feel anger we have already ceased striving for the truth, and have begun striving for ourselves.

Thomas Calyle

Anger

Keep cool and you command everybody.

St. Just

Anger

Life appears to me too short to be spent in nursing animosity or registering wrong.

Charlotte Brontë

Anger

Men often make up in wrath what they want in reason.

Alger

Anger

Never forget what a man has said to you when he was angry. If he has charged you with anything, you better look it up.

H. W. Beecher

Anger

Never forget what a man says to you when he is angry.

Henry Ward Beecher

Anger

Nothing is improved by anger, unless it be the arch of a cat's back. A man with his back up is spoiling his figure. People look none the handsomer for being red in the face. It takes a great deal out of a man to get into a towering rage; it is almost as unhealthy as having a fit….Whatever wrong I suffer, it can not do me half so much hurt as being angry about it.

Charles H. Spurgeon

Anger

Sweeter it [wrath] is by far than the honeycomb dripping with sweetness, and spreads through the hearts of men.

Homer

The Iliad, XVIII, 109

Anger

Temperate anger well becomes the wise.

Philemon

Anger

The broad general rule is that a man is about as big as the things that make him angry.

Author Unknown

Anger

The continuance and frequent fits of anger produce in the soul a propensity to be angry; which ofttimes ends in choler, bitterness, and morosity, when the mid becomes ulcerated, peevish, and querulous, and is wounded by the least occurrence.

Plutarch

Anger

The fire you kindle for your enemy often burns yourself more than him.

Chinese Proverb

Anger

The flame of anger, bright and brief, sharpens the barb of love.

Walter Savage Landor

Anger

The intoxication of anger, like that of the grape, shows us to others, but hides us from ourselves. We injure our own cause in the opinion of the world when we too passionately defend it.

Colton

Anger

The world belongs to the enthusiast who keeps cool.

William McFee

Anger

There is not in nature, a thing that makes man so deformed, so beastly, as doth intemperate anger.

John Webster

Anger

To be angry about trifles is mean and childish; to rage and be furious is brutish; and to maintain perpetual wrath is akin to the practice and temper of devils; but to prevent and suppress rising resentment is wise and glorious, is manly and divine.

Watts

Anger

To be angry is to revenge the faults of others on ourselves.

Pope

Anger

To rule one's anger is well; to prevent it is still better.

Tyron Edwards

Anger

Violence in the voice is often only the death rattle of reason in the throat.

Boyes

Anger

We are quick to flare up, we races of men on the earth.

Homer

The Odyssey, VII, 307

Anger

Whate'er's begun in anger ends in shame.

Benjamin Franklin

Anger

When anger rises, think of the consequences.

Confucius

Anger

When anger rushes, unrestrained, to action, like a hot steed, it stumbles in its way.

Richard Savage

Anger

When angry, count four! when very angry, swear.

Mark Twain

Anger

When angry, count ten before you speak; if very angry, count a hundred.

Thomas Jefferson

Anger

When one is in a good sound rage, it is astonishing how calm one can be.

Bulwer

Anger

When passion is on the throne reason is out of doors.

M. Henry

Anger

When thou art above measure angry, bethink thee how momentary is man's life.

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

Anger

When wrathful words arise, a closed mouth is soothing.

Irish Proverb

Anger

Wise anger is like fire from the flint; there is a great ado to bring it out; and when it does come, it is out again immediately.

M. Henry

Animals

A rare bird on earth, comparable to a black swan.

Decimus Junius Juvenal

Satires, VI, 165

Animals

…composed that monstrous animal, a husband and wife.

Henry Fielding (1707-1754)

Tom Jones (1749), Bk. XV, ch. 9

Animals

And for these also, Dear Lord, the humble beasts, who with us bear the burden and heat of the day, and offer their guileless lives for the well-being of their country, we supplicate Thy great tenderness of heart, for Thou hast promised to save both man and beast. And great is Thy loving kindness, Oh Master, Savior of the world.

Attributed to St. Basil of Caesarea, prayer, A.D. 370.—The Washington Daily News, April 16, 1971, p. 23. Unverified.

Animals

Bears when first born are shapeless masses of white flesh a little larger than mice, their claws alone being prominent. The mother then licks them gradually into proper shape.

Pliny the Elder

Natural History, VIII, 126

Animals

Bringing owls to Athens.

Aristophanes

Birds, 301

Animals

Every animal is sad after coitus except the human female and the rooster.

Claudius Galen (Galenus) (c. 130-200 A.D.)

Quoted by Dr. Kinsey; requoted in Time, January 24, 1964

Animals

Frogs in the marsh mud drone their old lament.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Georgics, I, 378

Animals

Heaven goes by favour. If it went by merit, you would stay out and your dog would go in.

Mark Twain

Animals

It has been related that dogs drink at the river Nile running along, that they may not be seized by the crocodiles.

Phaedrus

Fables, I, 25, 3

Animals

Money will buy a pretty good dog but it won't buy the wag of his tail.

Josh Billings

Animals

No matter how much cats fight, there always seem to be plenty of kittens.

Abraham Lincoln

Animals

Somewhere, what with all these clouds, and all this air,

There must be a rare name, somewhere….How do you like "Cloud-Cuckoo-Land"?

Aristophanes

Birds, 817

Animals

The bee is enclosed, and shines preserved in amber, so that it seems enshrined in its own nectar.

Martial [Marcus Valerius Martialis]

Epigrams, IV, 32

Animals

The three most intractable beasts, the owl, the serpent, and the people.

Demosthenes (384?-322? B.C.)

Quoted in Plutarch's Lives: Demosthenes (c. 106 A.D.)

Animals

They [the animals] do not make me sick discussing their duty to God.

Walt Whitman

Animals

To my way of thinking there's something wrong, or missing, with any person who hasn't got a soft spot in their heart for an animal of some kind. With most folks the dog stands highest as man's friend, then comes the horse, with others the cat is liked best as a pet, or a monkey is fussed over; but whatever kind of animal it is a person likes, it's all hunkydory so long as there's a place in the heart for one or a few of them.

Will James, Smoky, the Cow Horse, Preface, p. v (1929).

Animals

[Being] good to animals…the bad man's invariable characteristic.

Robert W. Chambers

Animals

[On the nightingale] Lord Zeus, listen to the little bird's voice; he has filled the whole thicket with honeyed song.

Aristophanes

Birds, 223

Anticipation

All earthly delights are sweeter in expectation than in enjoyment; but all spiritual pleasures more in fruition than in expectation.

Feltham

Anticipation

All things that are, are with more spirit chased than enjoyed.

Giles

Anticipation

Among so many sad realities we can but ill endure to rob anticipation of its pleasant visions.

Giles

Anticipation

Be not looking for evil. Often thou drainest the gall of fear while evil is passing by thy dwelling.

Tupper

Anticipation

Few enterprises of great labor or hazard would be undertaken if we had not the power of magnifying the advantages we expect from them.

Johnson

Anticipation

He who foresees calamities, suffers them twice over.

Porteous

Anticipation

In all worldly things that a man pursues with the greatest eagerness he finds not half the pleasure in the possession that he proposed to himself in the expectation.

South

Anticipation

It has been well said that no man ever sank under the burden of the day. It is when tomorrow's burden is added to the burden of today that the weight is more than a man can bear.

G. MacDonald

Anticipation

It is worse to apprehend then to suffer.

Bruyere

Anticipation

Nothing is so good as it seems before-hand.

George Eliot

Anticipation

Nothing is so wretched or foolish as to anticipate misfortunes. What madness is it to be expecting evil before it comes.

Seneca

Anticipation

Our desires always disappoint us; for though we meet with something that gives us satisfaction, yet it never thoroughly answers our expectation.

Rochefoucauld

Anticipation

Sorrow itself is not so hard to bear as the thought of sorrow coming. Airy ghosts that work no harm do terrify us more than men in steel with bloody purposes.

T. B. Aldrich

Anticipation

Suffering itself does less afflict the senses than the anticipation of suffering.

Quintilian

Anticipation

The hours we pass with happy prospects in view are more pleasant than those crowned with fruition. In the first case we cook the dish to our own appetite; in the last case it is cooked for us.

Goldsmith

Anticipation

The joys we expect are not so bright, nor the troubles so dark as we fancy they will be.

Charles Reade

Anticipation

The worst evils are those that never arrive.

To tremble before anticipated evils, is to bemoan what thou hast never lost.

Goethe

Anticipation

We often tremble at an empty terror, yet the false fancy brings a real misery.

Schiller

Anticipation

We part more easily with what we possess then with our expectations of what we hope for: expectation always goes beyond enjoyment.

Homer

Anticipation

Why need a man forestall his date of grief, and run to meet that he would most avoid?

Milton

Anticipation

You're leaping over the hedge before you come to the stile.

Miguel de Cervantes

Don Quixote, Pt. I, III, 4, 117

Antiquity

All the transactions of the past differ very little from those of the present.

M. Antoninus

Antiquity

All things now held to be old were once new. What today we hold up by example, will rank hereafter as precedent.

Tacitus

Antiquity

Antiquity is enjoyed not by the ancients who lived in the infancy of things, but by us who live in their maturity.

Colton

Antiquity

Antiquity!—like its ruins better than its reconstructions.

Joubert

Antiquity

I do by no means advise you to throw away your time in ransacking, like a dull antiquarian, the minute and unimportant parts of remote and fabulous times. Let blockheads read, what blockheads wrote.

Earl of Chesterfield

Antiquity

It is one proof of a good education, and of a true refinement of feeling, to respect antiquity.

Mrs. Sigourney

Antiquity

The earliest and oldest and longest has still the mastery of us.

George Eliot

Antiquity

Those old ages are like the landscape that shows best in the purple distance, all verdant and smooth, and bathed in mellow light.

E. H. Chapin

Antiquity

Those we call the ancients were really new in everything.

Pascal

Antiquity

Time consecrates; and what is gray with age becomes religion.

Schiller

Antiquity

What subsists today by violence, continues tomorrow by acquiescence, and is perpetuated by tradition, till at last the hoary abuse shakes the gray hairs of antiquity at us, and gives itself out as the wisdom of ages.

Everett

Antiquity

When ancient opinions and rules of life are taken away, the loss cannot possibly be estimated. From that moment we have not compass to govern us, nor can we know distinctly to what port to steer.

Burke

Anxiety

An undivided heart which worships God alone, and trusts him as it should, is raised above anxiety for earthly wants.

Geikie

Anxiety

Anxiety is a word of unbelief or unreasoning dread. We have no right to allow it. Full faith in God puts it to rest.

Horace Bushnell

Anxiety

Anxiety is the poison of human life; the parent of many sins and of more miseries. In a world where everything is doubtful, and where we may be disappointed, and be blessed in disappointment, why this restless stir and commotion of mind? Can it alter the cause, or unravel the mystery of human events?

Blair

Anxiety

Anxiety is the rust of life, destroying its brightness and weakening its power. A childlike and abiding trust in Providence is its best preventive and remedy.

Tyron Edwards

Anxiety

Better be despised for too anxious apprehensions, than be ruined by too confident security.

Burke

Anxiety

Borrow trouble for yourself, if that's your nature, but don't lend it to your neighbors.

Rudyard Kipling

Anxiety

Do not anticipate trouble, or worry about what may never happen. Keep in the sunlight.

Benjamin Franklin

Anxiety

Don't be forecasting evil unless it is what you can guard against. Anxiety is good for nothing if we can't turn it into a defense.

Meyrick

Anxiety

He is well along the road to perfect manhood who does not allow the thousand little worries of like to embitter his temper, or disturb his equanimity.

Geikie

Anxiety

How much have cost us the evils that never happened!

Thomas Jefferson

Anxiety

If pleasures are greatest in anticipation, just remember that this is also true of trouble.

Elbert Hubbard

Anxiety

It is not the cares of today, but the cares of tomorrow that weigh a man down. For the needs of today we have corresponding strength given. For the morrow we are told to trust. It is not ours yet.

G. MacDonald

Anxiety

It is not work that kills men; it is worry. Work is healthy; you can hardly put more on a man than he can bear. But worry is rust upon the blade. It is not movement that destroys the machinery, but the friction.

H. W. Beecher

Anxiety

Never meet trouble half-way.

John Ray

Anxiety

Never trouble trouble till trouble troubles you.

Anonymous

Anxiety

One of the most useless of all things is to take a deal of trouble in providing against dangers that never come. How many toil to lay up riches which they never enjoy; to provide for exigencies that never happen; to prevent troubles that never come; sacrificing present comfort and enjoyment in guarding against the wants of a period they may never live to see.

W. Jay

Anxiety

Sufficient to each day are the duties to be done and the trials to be endured. God never built a Christian strong enough to carry today's duties and tomorrow's anxieties piled on the top of them.

T. L. Cuyler

Anxiety

When we borrow trouble, and look forward into the future and see what storms are coming, and distress ourselves before they come, as to how we shall avert them if they ever do come, we lose our proper trustfulness in God. When we torment ourselves with imaginary dangers, or trials, or reverses, we have already parted with that perfect love which casteth out fear.

H. W. Beecher

Anxiety

Where everything is bad it must be good to know the worst.

F. H. Bradley

Anxiety

Worry not about the possible troubles of the future; for if they come, you are but anticipating and adding to their weight; and if they do not come, your worry is useless; and in either case it is weak and in vain, and a distrust of God's providence.

Tyron Edwards

Apathy

Bad will be the day for every man when he becomes absolutely content with the life that he is living, with the thoughts that he is thinking, with the deeds that he is doing, when there is not forever beating at the doors of his soul some great desire to do something larger, which he knows that he was meant and made to do, because he is still, in spite of all, the child of God.

Phillips Brooks

Apathy

The hottest places in Hell are reserved for those who in time of great moral crises maintain their neutrality.

Dante Alighieri

Apathy

The tyranny of a prince in an oligarchy is not so dangerous to the public welfare as the apathy of a citizen in a democracy.

Baron de Montesquieu

Apologies

Apologies only account for the evil which they cannot alter.

Disraeli

Apologies

Apology is only egotism wrong side out. Nine times out of ten the first thing a man's companion knows of his short-comings, is from his apology.

O. W. Holmes

Apologies

I do not trouble my spirit to vindicate itself…. I see the elementary laws never apologize.

Whitman

Apologies

No sensible person ever made an apology.

Emerson

Apologies

Apology is only egotism wrong side out.

Oliver Wendell Holmes

Apostasy

We seldom lose our faith by a blowout, usually is just a slow leak.

Author Unknown

Apothegms

A maxim is the exact and noble expression of an important and indisputable truth.—Sound maxims are the germs of good; strongly imprinted on the memory they fortify and strengthen the will.

Joubert

Apothegms

Aphorisms are portable wisdom, the quintessential extracts of thought and feeling.

R. W. Alger

Apothegms

Apothegms are in history, the same as pearls in the sand, or gold in the mine.

Erasmus

Apothegms

Apothegms are the wisdom of the past condensed for the instruction and guidance of the present.

Tyron Edwards

Apothegms

Apothegms to thinking minds are the seeds from which spring vast fields of new thought, that may be further cultivated, beautified, and enlarged.

Ramsey

Apothegms

Exclusively of the abstract sciences, the largest and worthiest portion of our knowledge consists of aphorisms, and the greatest and best of men is but an aphorism.

Coleridge

Apothegms

He is a benefactor of mankind who contracts the great rules of life into the short sentences, that may be easily impressed on the memory, and so recur habitually to the mind.

Johnson

Apothegms

Nor do apothegms only serve for ornament and delight, but also for action and civil use, as being the edge tools of speech, which cut and penetrate the knots of business and affairs.

Bacon

Apothegms

Nothing hits harder, or sticks longer in the memory, than an apothegm.

J. A. Murray

Apothegms

Sensible men show their sense by saying much in few words. If noble actions are the substance of life, good sayings are its ornament and guide.

C. Simmons

Apothegms

The excellence of aphorisms consists not so much in the expression of some rare or abstruse sentiment, as in the comprehension of some useful truth in a few words.

Johnson

Apothegms

The short sayings of wise and good men are of great value, like the dust of gold, or the sparks of diamonds.

Tillotson

Apothegms

There are but few proverbial sayings that are not true, for they are all drawn from experience itself, which is the mother of all sciences.

Cervantes

Apothegms

Under the veil of these curious sentences are hid those germs of morals which the masters of philosophy have afterwards developed into so many volumes.

Plutarch

Appearances

A fair exterior is a silent recommendation.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 267

Appearances

A man of the world must seem to be what he wishes to be thought.

Bruyere

Appearances

Appearances often are deceiving.

Aesop

Appearances

Appearances to the mind are of four kinds. Things either are what they appear to be; or they neither are, nor appear to be; or they are, and do not appear to be; or they are not, and yet appear to be. Rightly to aim in all these cases is the wise man's task.

Epictetus

Discourses, I, 27

Appearances

Beware, so long as you live, of judging men by their outward appearance.

La Fontaine

Appearances

Do not hold as gold all that shines as gold.

Alain De Lille [Alanus De Insulis]

Parabolae

Appearances

Do not judge from mere appearances; for the lift laughter that bubbles on the lip often mantles over the depths of sadness, and the serious look may be the sober veil that covers a divine peace and joy. The bosom can ache beneath diamond brooches; and many a blithe heart dances under coarse wool.

E. H. Chapin

Appearances

Eat to please thyself, but dress to please others.

Benjamin Franklin

Appearances

Foolish men mistake transitory semblances for eternal fact, and go astray more and more.

Carlyle

Appearances

Half the work that is done in this world is to make things appear what they are not.

E. R. Beadle

Appearances

How little do they see what is, who frame their hasty judgments upon that which seems.

Southey

Appearances

Our purses shall be proud, our garments poor:

For 'tis the minds that makes the body rich;

And as the sun breaks through the darkest clouds,

So honor peereth in the meanest habit.

William Shakespeare

The Taming of the Shrew, IV, iii, 173

Appearances

Remember two things: he's not half as smart as you think he is; secondly, he thinks you are twice as smart as you are.

David Swartz

Appearances

Resemblance reproduces the formal aspect of objects, but neglects their spirit; truth shows the spirit and substance in like perfection. He who tries to transmit the spirit by means of the formal aspect and ends by merely obtaining the outward appearance, will produce a dead thing.

Ching Hao

Notes on Brushwork

Appearances

The shortest and surest way to live with honor in the world, is to be in reality what we would appear to be.

Socrates

Appearances

There are not greater wretches in the world than many of those whom people in general take to be happy.

Seneca

Appearances

Things are not always what they seem.

Phaedrus

Fables, IV, 2, 5

Appetite

A well governed appetite is a great part of liberty.

Seneca

Appetite

Animals feed; man eats. Only the man of intellect and judgment knows how to eat.

Savarin

Appetite

Choose rather to punish your appetites than to be punished by them.

Tyrius Maximus

Appetite

For the sake of health, medicines are taken by weight and measure; so ought food to be, or by some similar rule.

Skelton

Appetite

Good cheer is no hindrance to a good life.

Aristippus

Appetite

Let not thy table exceed the fourth part of thy revenue: let thy provision be solid, and not far fetched, fuller of the substance than art: be wisely frugal in thy preparation, and freely cheerful in thy entertainment: if thy guests be right, it is enough; if not, it is too much: too much is a vanity; enough is a feast.

Quarles

Appetite

Now good digestion wait on appetite, and health on both.

Shakespeare

Appetite

Reason should direct, and appetite obey.

Cicero

Appetite

Temperance and labor are the two best physicians of man; labor sharpens the appetite, and temperance prevents from indulging to excess.

Rousseau

Appetite

The lower your senses are kept, the better you may govern them. Appetite and reason are like two buckets—when one is up, the other is down. Of the two, I would rather have the reason-bucket uppermost.

Collier

Appetite

There are so few that resist the allurements and luxuries of the table, that the usual civilities at a meal are very like being politely assisted to the grave.

N. P. Willis

Appetite

There is no question but that these hungry populations no longer feel genuine appetite; they eat mechanically, as though eating were a duty.

Josue de Castro

Applause

A slowness to applaud betrays a cold temper or an envious spirit.

H. More

Applause

Applause is the spur of noble minds; the end and aim of weak ones.

Colton

Applause

Applause waits on success. The fickle multitude, like the light straw that floats on the stream, glide with the current still, and follow fortune.

Benjamin Franklin

Applause

Great minds had rather deserve contemporaneous applause without obtaining it, than obtain without deserving it. If it follow them it is well, but they will not deviate to follow it.

Colton

Applause

Man's first care should be to avoid the reproaches of his own heart, and next to escape the censures of the world. If the last interfere with the first it should be entirely neglected. But if not, there cannot be a greater satisfaction to an honest mind than to see its own approbation seconded by the applause of the public.

Addison

Applause

Neither human applause nor human censure is to be taken as the test of truth; but either should set us upon testing ourselves.

Whately

Applause

O popular applause! What heart of man is proof against thy sweet, seducing charms!

Cowper

Applause

Praise from the common people is generally false, and rather follows the vain then the virtuous.

Bacon

Applause

When the million applaud you, seriously ask what harm you have done: when they censure you, what good.

Colton

Appreciation

A work of real merit finds favor at last.

A. B. Alcott

Appreciation

Appreciation, whether of nature, or books, or art, or men, depends very much on temperament. What is beauty or genius or greatness to one, is far from being so to another.

Tyron Edwards

Appreciation

Contemporaries appreciate the man rather than the merit; but posterity will regard the merit rather than the man.

Colton

Appreciation

Every man is valued in this world as he shows by his conduct that he wishes to be valued.

Bruyere

Appreciation

He is incapable of a truly good action who finds not a pleasure in contemplating the good actions of others.

Lavater

Appreciation

In an audience of rough people a generous sentiment always brings down the house. In the tumult of war both sides applaud a heroic deed.

T. W. Higginson

Appreciation

In proportion as our own mind is enlarged we discover a greater number of men of originality. Commonplace people see no difference between one man and another.

Pascal

Appreciation

It is with certain good qualities as with the senses; those who have them not can neither appreciate nor comprehend them in others.

Rochefoucauld

Appreciation

Next to invention is the power of interpreting invention: next to beauty the power of appreciating beauty.

Margaret Fuller

Appreciation

No story is the same to us after a lapse of time; or rather we who read it are no longer the same interpreters.

George Eliot

Appreciation

One of the Godlike things of this world is the veneration done to human worth by the hearts of men.

Carlyle

Appreciation

To feel exquisitely is the lot of very many; but to appreciate belongs to the few. Only one or two, here and there, have the blended passion and understanding which, in its essence, constitute worship.

C. Auchester

Appreciation

To love one that is great, is almost to be great one's self.

Mad. Neckar

Appreciation

We are very much what others think of us. The reception our observations meet with gives us courage to proceed, or damps our efforts.

Hazlitt

Appreciation

We must never undervalue any person. The workman loves not to have his work despised in his presence. Now God is present everywhere, and every person is his work.

St. Francois de Sales

Appreciation

We never know a greater character unless there is in ourselves something congenial to it.

Channing

Appreciation

We should allow other's excellences, to preserve a modest opinion of our own.

Issac Barrow

Appreciation

Whatever are the benefits of fortune, they yet require a palate fit to relish and taste them.

Montaigne

Appreciation

When a nation gives birth to a man who is able to produce a great thought, another is born who is able to understand and admire it.

Joubert

Architecture

A Gothic church is a petrified religion.

Coleridge

Architecture

Architecture has its political use; public buildings being the ornament of a country; it establishes a nation, draws people and commerce; makes the People love their native country, which passion is the original of all great actions in a Common-wealth…architecture aims at eternity.

Sir Christopher Wren, "Of Architecture," Parentalia; or Memoirs of the Family of the Wrens, comp. by his son Christopher, Appendix, p. 351 (1750, reprinted 1965).

Architecture

Architecture is a handmaid of devotion. A beautiful church is a sermon in stone and its spire a finger pointing to heaven.

Schaff

Architecture

Architecture is frozen music.

Baronne de Stael-Holstein

Architecture

Architecture is the art which so disposes and adorns the edifices raised by man, that the sight of them may contribute to his mental health, power, and pleasure.

Ruskin

Architecture

Architecture is the printing press of all ages, and gives a history of the state of society in which the structure was erected, from the cromlachs of the Druids to the toyshops of bad taste. The Tower and Westminster Abbey are glorious pages in the history of time, and tell the story of an iron despotism, and of the cowardice of an unlimited power.

Lady Morgan

Architecture

Architecture worth great attention. As we double our numbers every 20 years we must double our houses. Besides we build of such perishable materials that one half of our houses must be rebuilt in every space of 20 years. So that in that term, houses are to be built for three fourths of our inhabitants. It is then among the most important arts: and it is desireable to introduce taste into an art which shews so much.

Thomas Jefferson, hints to Americans travelling in Europe, letter to John Rutledge, Jr., June 19, 1788.—The Papers of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Julian P. Boyd, vol. 13, p. 269 (1956).

Architecture

Bridges are America's cathedrals.

Author unknown.

Architecture

Houses are built to live in, more than to look on; therefore let use be preferred before uniformity, except where both may be had.

Bacon

Architecture

If cities were built by the sound of music, then some edifices would appear to be constructed by grave, solemn tones, and others to have danced forth to light fantastic airs.

Hawthorne

Architecture

In any and every case the site is the beginning of the building that aspires to architecture. And this is true whatever the site or the building may be.

Frank Lloyd Wright

Architecture

The architecture of a nation is great only when it is as universal and established as its language, and when provincial differences are nothing more than so many dialects.

Ruskin

Architecture

The land is the simplest form of architecture. Building upon the land is as natural to man as to other animals, birds or insects. In so far as he was more than an animal his building became what we call architecture. While he was true to earth his architecture was creative.

Frank Lloyd Wright

Architecture

The stone which the builders refused is become the head stone of the corner.

The Bible, Psalms 118:22.

Argument/Controversy

Weak arguments are often thrust before my path; but although they are most unsubstantial, it is not easy to destroy them. There is not a more difficult feat known than to cut through a cushion with a sword.

Whately

Argument/Controversy

A knockdown argument: 'tis but a word and a blow.

John Dryden

Amphitryon, I, 1

Argument/Controversy

A sure way of getting the last word in an argument is to say 'You're right.'

Author Unknown

Argument/Controversy

An argument needs no reason, nor a friendship.

Ibycus

Argument/Controversy

An ill argument introduced with deference will procure more credit than the profoundest science with a rough, insolent, and noisy management.

Locke

Argument/Controversy

Argument, as usually managed, is the worst sort of conversation, as in books it is generally the worst sort of reading.

Swift

Argument/Controversy

Be calm in arguing; for fierceness makes error a fault, and truth discourtesy.

Herbert

Argument/Controversy

Clear statement is argument.

W. G. T. Shedd

Argument/Controversy

From pro's and con's they fell to a warmer way of disputing.

Miguel de Cervantes

Don Quixote, Pt. I, III, 10, 181

Argument/Controversy

He that blows the coals in quarrels he has nothing to do with has no right to complain if the sparks fly in his face.

Benjamin Franklin

Argument/Controversy

He who establishes his argument by noise and command, shows that his reason is weak.

Montaigne

Argument/Controversy

Heat and animosity, contest and conflict, may sharpen the wits, although they rarely do; they never strengthen the understanding, clear the perspicacity, guide the judgement, or improve the heart.

Landor

Argument/Controversy

If I were to deliver up my whole self to the arbitrament of special pleaders, today I might be argued into an atheist, and tomorrow into a pickpocket.

Bulwer

Argument/Controversy

It is a hard matter, my fellow citizens, to argue with the belly, since it has no ears.

Marcus Porcius Cato, The Elder

From Plutarch, Lives, Cato, 8

Argument/Controversy

It were endless to dispute upon everything that is disputable.

William Penn

Argument/Controversy

It would be argument for a week, laughter for a month, and a good jest forever.

William Shakespeare

King Henry IV, I, II, ii, 104

Argument/Controversy

Men's arguments often prove nothing but their wishes.

Colton

Argument/Controversy

Neither irony nor sarcasm is argument.

Rufus Choate

Argument/Controversy

Never argue at the dinner table, for the one who is not hungry always gets the best of the argument.

Whately

Argument/Controversy

Not to know me argues yourselves unknown.

John Milton

Paradise Lost, IV, 830

Argument/Controversy

Nothing is more certain than that much of the force as well as grace of arguments, as well as of instructions, depends on their conciseness.

Pope

Argument/Controversy

People generally quarrel because they cannot argue.

G. K. Chesterton

Argument/Controversy

Prejudices are rarely overcome by argument; not being founded in reason they cannot be destroyed by logic.

Tyron Edwards

Argument/Controversy

Testimony is like an arrow shot from a long-bow; its force depends on the strength of the hand that draws it.—But argument is like an arrow from a cross-bow, which has equal force if drawn by a child or a man.

Boyle

Argument/Controversy

The first duty of a wise advocate is to convince his opponents that he understands their arguments, and sympathizes with their just feelings.

Coleridge

Argument/Controversy

The soundest argument will produce no more conviction in an empty head than the most superficial declamation; a feather and a guinea fall with equal velocity in a vacuum.

Colton

Argument/Controversy

The way to convince another is to state your case moderately and accurately. Then scratch your head, or shake it a little and say that is the way it seems to you, but that of course you may be mistaken about it. This causes your listener to receive what you have to say, and as like as not turn about and try to convince you of it, since you are in doubt. But if you go at him in a tone of positiveness and arrogance, you only make an opponent of him.

Benjamin Franklin

Argument/Controversy

There is no dispute managed without passion, and yet there is scarce a dispute worth a passion.

Sherlock

Argument/Controversy

There is no good in arguing with the inevitable. The only argument available with an east wind is to put on your overcoat.

James Russell Lowell

Argument/Controversy

When a man argues for victory and not for truth, he is sure of just one ally, that is the devil. Not the defeat of the intellect, but the acceptance of the heart is the only true object in fighting with the sword of the spirit.

G. MacDonald

Argument/Controversy

Who overrefines his argument brings himself to grief.

Petrarch [Francesco Petrarca]

To Laura in Life, canzone 11

Argument/Controversy

Wise men argue causes; fools decide them.

Anarcharsis

Argument/Controversy

Argument is the worst sort of conversation.

Jonathan Swift

Argument/Controversy

How many a dispute could have been deflated into a single paragraph if the disputants had dared to define their terms.

Aristotle

Argument/Controversy

I dislike arguments of any kind. They are always vulgar, and often convincing.

Oscar Wilde

Argument/Controversy

I never make the mistake of arguing with people for whose opinions I have no respect.

Edward Gibbon

Argument/Controversy

If you can't answer a man's argument, all is not lost; you can still call him vile names.

Elbert Hubbard

Argument/Controversy

It is not necessary to understand things in order to argue about them.

Pierre Augustin de Beaumarchais

Argument/Controversy

People are usually more convinced by reasons they discovered themselves than by those found by others.

Blaise Pascal

Argument/Controversy

Protagoras it was who first left facts out of consideration and fastened his arguments on words. He it was who first invented the sort of argument which is called Socratic.

Diogenes Laertius

Argument/Controversy

Silence is one of the hardest things to refute.

Josh Billings

Argument/Controversy

The man who strikes first admits that his ideas have given out.

Chinese Proverb

Argument/Controversy

There is no arguing with him, for if his pistol misses fire, he knocks you down with the butt end of it.

Oliver Goldsmith

Argument/Controversy

When you have no basis for an argument, abuse the plaintiff.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

Aristocracy

A social life that worships money or makes social distinction its aim, is, in spirit, an attempted aristocracy.

Among the masses, even in revolutions, aristocracy must ever exist. Destroy it in the nobility, and it becomes centered in the rich and powerful Houses of Commons. Pull them down, and it still survives in the master and foreman of the workshop.

Guizot

Aristocracy

Aristocracy has three successive ages: the age of superiorities, that of privileges, and that of vanities. Having passed out of the first, it degenerates in the second, and dies away the third.

Chateaubriand

Aristocracy

I never could believe that Providence had sent a few men into the world, ready booted and spurred to ride, and millions ready saddled and bridled to be ridden.

Richard Rumbold

Aristocracy

Some will always be above others. Destroy the inequality today, and it will appear again tomorrow.

Emerson

Army

Armies, though always the supporters and tools of absolute power for the time being, are always its destroyers too, by frequently changing the hands in which they think proper to lodge it.

Earl of Chesterfield

Army

The army is a good book in which to study human life. One learns there to put his hand to everything. The most delicate and rich are forced to see poverty and live with it; to understand distress; and to know how rapid and great are the revolutions and changes of life.

De Vigny

Army

The army is a school where obedience is taught, and discipline is enforced; where bravery becomes a habit and morals too often are neglected; where chivalry is exalted, and religion undervalued; where the virtue is rather understood in the classic sense of fortitude and courage, than in the modern and Christian sense of true moral excellence.

Ladd

Army

The best armor is to keep out of gunshot.

Bacon

Arrogance

Nothing is more hateful to a poor man than the purse-proud arrogance of the rich. But let the poor man become rich and he runs at once into the vice against which he so feelingly declaimed. There are strange contradictions in human character.

Cumberland

Arrogance

The arrogant man does but blast the blessings of life and swagger away his own enjoyments. To say nothing of the folly and injustice of such behavior, it is always the sign of a little and unbenevolent temper, having no more greatness in it than the swelling of the dropsy.

Collier

Arrogance

When men are most sure and arrogant, they are commonly most mistaken, giving views to passion without that proper deliberation which alone can secure them from the grossest absurdities.

David Hume

Art/The Arts

In sculpture did any one ever call the Apollo a fancy piece; or say of the Laocoon how it might be made different?—A masterpiece of art has, to the mind, a fixed place in the chain of being, as much as a plant or a crystal.

Emerson

Art/The Arts

A man that has a taste of music, painting, or architecture, is like one that has another sense, when compared with such as have no relish of those arts.

Joseph Addison

Art/The Arts

A painting in a museum hears more ridiculous opinions than anything else in the world.

Edmond de Goncourt

Art/The Arts

A subject that is beautiful in itself gives no suggestion to the artist. It lacks imperfection.

Oscar Wilde

Art/The Arts

….All art therefore, appeals primarily to the senses, and the artistic aim when expressing itself in written words must also make its appeal through the senses, if its high desire is to reach the secret spring of responsive emotions. It must strenuously aspire to the plasticity of sculpture, to the colour of painting, and to the magic suggestiveness of music—which is the art of arts.

Joseph Conrad (né Korzeniowski)

The Nigger of the "Narcissus" (1897), Preface

Art/The Arts

…art itself may be defined as a single-minded attempt to render the highest kind of justice to the visible universe, by bringing to light the truth, manifold and one, underlying its every aspect.

Joseph Conrad (né Korzeniowski)

The Nigger of the "Narcissus" (1897)

Art/The Arts

All great art is the expression of man's delight in God's work, not his own.

Ruskin

Art/The Arts

All that is good in art is the expression of one soul talking to another, and is precious according to the greatness of the soul that utters it.

Ruskin

Art/The Arts

Art and life ought to be hurriedly remarried and brought to live together.

Hugh Walpole

Art/The Arts

Art does not imitate nature, but founds itself on the study of nature—takes from nature the selections which best accord with its own intention, and then bestows on them that which nature does not posses, viz.: the mind and soul of man.

Bulwer

Art/The Arts

Art employs method for the symmetrical formation of beauty, as science employs it for the logical exposition of truth; but the mechanical process is, in the last, ever kept visibly distinct, while in the first it escapes from sight amid the shows of color and the shapes of grace.

Bulwer

Art/The Arts

Art happens—no hovel is safe from it, no Prince may depend upon it, the vastest intelligence cannot bring it about.

James McNeill Whistler

Art/The Arts

Art hath an enemy called Ignorance

Ben Jonson

Art/The Arts

Art hath an enemy called Ignorance

Ben Jonson

Every Man Out of His Humour, I, I

Art/The Arts

Art is a creative effort of which the wellsprings lie in the spirit, and which brings us at once the most intimate self of the artist and the secret concurrences which he has perceived in things by means of a vision or intuition all his own, and not to be expressed in ideas and in words—expressible only in the work of art.

Jacques Maritain

Art/The Arts

Art is a quest for the useless.

Gustave Flaubert (1821-1880)

Quoted in Blekhanov, Art and Society

Art/The Arts

Art is either a revolutionist or a plagiarist.

Paul Gauguin (1848-1903)

Attributed

Art/The Arts

Art is long, life short; judgment difficult, opportunity fleeting.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832)

Wilhelm Meisters Lehrjahre (1796), VII, 5

Art/The Arts

Art is vice. One does not wed it, one rapes it.

Edgar Degas (1834-1917)

Quoted in Saturday Review, May 28, 1966

Art/The Arts

Art, as far as it has the ability, follows nature, as a pupil imitates his master, so that art must be, as it were, a descendant of God.

Dante

Art/The Arts

Art, like morality, consists in drawing the line somewhere.

G. K. Chesterton

Art/The Arts

Artists are nearest God. Into their souls he breathers his life, and from their hands it comes in fair, articulate forms to bless the world.

J. G. Holland

Art/The Arts

Bad artists always admire each other's work.

Oscar Wilde

Art/The Arts

Every artist was first an amateur.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Art/The Arts

However skillful an artist may be, and however perfect his technique, if he unhappily has nothing to tell us, his work is valueless.

Jacques Maritain

Art/The Arts

I have a predilection for painting that lends joyousness to a wall.

Pierre Renoir

Art/The Arts

I have many swift arrows in my quiver which speak to the wise, but for the crowd they need interpreters. The skilled poet is one who knows much through natural gift, but those who have learned their art chatter turbulently, vainly, against the divine bird of Zeus.

Pindar

Olympian Odes II, 150

Art/The Arts

In art the best is good enough.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832)

Italienische Reise (1816)

Art/The Arts

In art there is nothing without form.

Gustave Flaubert (1821-1880)

Letters, To Mlle. Louise Colet, August 12, 1846

Art/The Arts

In the art of design, color is to form what verse is to prose, a more harmonious and luminous vehicle of thought.

Mrs. Jameson

Art/The Arts

It is necessary that the object that the artist is shaping, whether it be a vase of clay or a fishing boat, be significant of something other than itself. This object must be a sign as well as an object; a meaning must animate it, and make it say more than it is.

Jacques Maritain

Art/The Arts

It is only an auctioneer who can equally and impartially admire all schools of Art.

Oscar Wilde

Art/The Arts

Never judge a work of art by its defects.

Washington Allsion

Art/The Arts

One picture is worth more than ten thousand words.

Chinese Proverb

Art/The Arts

Painting is silent poetry, and poetry painting that speaks.

Simonides

Art/The Arts

Practice and thought might gradually forge many an art.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Georgics, I, 133

Art/The Arts

Since I have known God in a saving manner, painting, poetry, and music have had charms unknown to me before. I have either received what I suppose is a taste for them, or religion has refined my mind, and made it susceptible of new impressions from the sublime and beautiful. O, how religion secures the heightened enjoyment of those pleasures which keep so many from God by their being a source of pride.

Henry Martyn

Art/The Arts

The aim of art is to represent not the outward appearance of things, but their inward significance.

Aristotle

Art/The Arts

The artist is the child in the popular fable, every one of whose tears was a pearl. Ah! the world, that cruel stepmother, beats the poor child the harder to make him shed more pearls.

Heine

Art/The Arts

The artist ought never to perpetuate a temporary expression.

Emerson

Art/The Arts

The artist ought no more to appear in his work than God in nature.

Gustave Flaubert (1821-1880)

Quoted in Wilson, The Triple Thinkers

Art/The Arts

The artistic representation of history is a more scientific and serious pursuit than the exact writing of history. For the art of letters goes to the heart of things, whereas the factual report merely collocates details.

Aristotle

Art/The Arts

The connoisseur of art must be able to appreciate what is simply beautiful, but the common run of people are satisfied with ornament.

Johann W. von Goethe

Art/The Arts

The highest art is always the most religious, and the greatest artist is always a devout man. A scoffing Raphael, or an irreverent Michael Angelo, is not conceivable.

Blackie

Art/The Arts

The highest problem of any art is to cause by appearance the illusion of a higher reality.

Goethe

Art/The Arts

The highest triumph of art, is the truest presentation of nature.

N. P. Willis

Art/The Arts

The learned understand the reason of art; the unlearned feel the pleasure.

Quintilian

Art/The Arts

The mission of art is to represent nature; not to imitate her.

W. M. Hunt

Art/The Arts

The mother of the useful art, is necessity; that of the fine arts, is luxury. The former have intellect for their father; the latter, genius, which itself is a kind of luxury.

Schopenhauer

Art/The Arts

The names of great painters are like passing bells. In Velasquez you hear sounded the fall of Spain; in Titian, that of Venice; in Leonardo, that of Milan; in Raphael, that of Rome. And there is profound justice in this; for in proportion to the nobleness of power is the guilt of its use for purposes vain or vile; and hitherto the greater the art the more surely has it been used, and used solely, for the decoration of pride, or the provoking of sensuality.

Ruskin

Art/The Arts

The object of art is to crystallize emotion into thought, and then fix it in form.

Delsarte

Art/The Arts

The only artist who does not deserve respect is the one who works to please the public, for commercial success or for official success.

Jacques Maritain

Art/The Arts

The ordinary true, or purely real, cannot be the object of the arts. Illusion on a ground of truth, that is the secret of the fine arts.

Joubert

Art/The Arts

The painter is, as to the execution of his work, a mechanic; but as to his conception and spirit and design he is hardly below even the poet.

Schiller

Art/The Arts

The pride of the artisan in his art and its uses is pride in himself…. It is in his skill and ability to make things as he wishes them to be that he rejoices.

George Santayana

Art/The Arts

The real truthfulness of all works of imagination, sculpture, painting, and written fiction, is so purely in the imagination, that the artist never seeks to represent positive truth, but the idealized image of truth.

Bulwer

Art/The Arts

The true work of art is but a shadow of the divine perfection.

Michael Angelo

Art/The Arts

There are three arts which are concerned with all things: one which uses, another which makes, a third imitates them.

Plato

The Republic, X, 601-D

Art/The Arts

There is no more potent antidote to low sensuality than admiration of the beautiful. All the higher arts of design are essentially chaste, without respect to the object. They purify the thoughts, as tragedy purifies the passions. Their accidental effects are not worth consideration; for there are souls to whom even a vestal is not holy.

Schlegel

Art/The Arts

There is nothing new in art except talent.

Anton Chekhov

Art/The Arts

To be artist and lover, that is the true goal, the only adequate objective, the divinely destined end for man.

Bernard Iddings Bell

Art/The Arts

True art is reverent imitation of God.

Tyron Edwards

Art/The Arts

Variety of uniformities makes complete beauty.

Sir Christopher Wren

Art/The Arts

Very sacred is the vocation of the artist, who has to do directly with the works of God, and interpret the teaching of creation to mankind. All honor to the man who treats it sacredly; who studies, as in God's presence, the thoughts of God which are expressed to him; and makes all things according to the pattern which he is ever ready to show to earnest and reverent genius on the mount.

J. Brown

Art/The Arts

What has reason to do with the art of painting?

William Blake

Art/The Arts

When a work of art appears to be in advance of its period, it is really the period that has lagged behind the work of art.

Jean Cocteau

Art/The Arts

When one is painting one does not think.

Raphael Sanzio

Art/The Arts

Why is it that our modern world insists upon drawing such a very sharp line of demarcation between the arts and the crafts? In the days when the arts were really an integral part of people's daily lives, that line of demarcation did not exist…. But today the artist lives on one side of the street and the craftsman lives on the other side and the two hardly speak to each other.

Hendrick Willem Van Loon

Art/The Arts

Would that we could at once paint with the eyes!—In the long way from the eye through the arm to the pencil, how much is lost!

Lessing

Artifice

Artifice is weak; it is the work of mere man, in the imbecility and self distrust of his mimic understanding.

Hare

Artifice

The ordinary employment of artifice, is the mark of a petty mind; and it almost always happens that he who uses it to cover himself in one place, uncovers himself in another.

Rochefoucauld

Art/The Arts

I look forward to an America which will reward achievement in the arts as we reward achievement in business or statecraft. I look forward to an America which will steadily raise the standards of artistic accomplishment and which will steadily enlarge cultural opportunities for all of our citizens. And I look forward to an America which commands respect throughout the world not only for its strength but for its civilization as well.

President John F. Kennedy, remarks upon receiving an honorary degree, Amherst College, Amherst, Massachusetts, October 26, 1963.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: John F Kennedy, 1963, p. 817.Inscription on the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Washington, D.C.

Art/The Arts

The more minimal the art, the more maximum the explanation.

Hilton Kramer, The New York Times art critic, in the late 1960s when the term "minimal art" was in vogue.

Art/The Arts

There is a connection, hard to explain logically but easy to feel, between achievement in public life and progress in the arts. The age of Pericles was also the age of Phidias. The age of Lorenzo de Medici was also the age of Leonardo da Vinci. The age of Elizabeth was also the age of Shakespeare. And the New Frontier for which I campaign in public life, can also be a New Frontier for American art.

Senator John F. Kennedy, letter to Miss Theodate Johnson, publisher of Musical America, September 13, 1960.—Musical America, October 1960, p. 11.Inscription on the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Washington, D.C.

Art/The Arts

To further the appreciation of culture among all the people, to increase respect for the creative individual, to widen participation by all the processes and fulfillments of art—this is one of the fascinating challenges of these days.

President John F. Kennedy,

"The Arts in America," Look,

December 18, 1962, p. 110.

Also Public Papers of the Presidents of the

United States: John F Kennedy, 1962, p. 907.

Inscribed on the John F. Kennedy Center

for the Performing Arts, Washington, D.C.

Asceticism

Asceticism is something forced, and therefore insecure, unless it be a refuge and happy relief from indulgences that are insatiable, always fretful, always oppressive and remorseful.

George Santayana

Asceticism

I am prejudiced in favor of him who, without impudence, can ask boldly. He has faith in humanity, and faith in himself. No one who is not accustomed to give grandly can ask nobly and with boldness.

Lavater

Asceticism

I recommend no sour ascetic life. I believe not only in the thorns on the rosebush, but in the roses which the thorns defend. Asceticism is the child of sensuality and superstition. She is the secret mother of many a secret sin. God, when he made man's body, did not give us a fibre too much, nor a passion too many.

Theodore Parker

Asceticism

Three forms of asceticism have existed in this weak world. Religious asceticism, being the refusal of pleasure and knowledge for the sake, as supposed, of religion; seen chiefly in the middle ages. Military asceticism, being the refusal of pleasure and knowledge for the sake of power; seen chiefly in the early days of Sparta and Rome. And monetary asceticism, consisting in the refusal of pleasure and knowledge for the sake of money; seen in the present days of London and Manchester.

Ruskin

Aspiration

'Tis not what man does which exalts him, but what man would do!

Browning

Aspiration

Aspirations after the holy—the only aspirations in which the soul can be assured it will never meet with disappointment.

Maria McIntosh

Aspiration

Be always displeased with what thou art if thou desire to attain to what thou art not, for where thou hast pleased thyself, there thou abidest.

Quarles

Aspiration

God has never ceased to be the one true aim of all right human aspirations.

Vinet

Aspiration

It is not for man to rest in absolute contentment. He is born to hopes and aspirations as the sparks fly upward, unless he has brutified his nature and quenched the spirit of immortality which is his portion.

Southey

Aspiration

It seems to me we can never give up longing and wishing while we are thoroughly alive. There are certain things we feel to be beautiful and good, and we must hunger after them.

George Eliot

Aspiration

Man can climb to the highest summits but he cannot dwell there long.

George Bernard Shaw

Aspiration

Man ought always to have something that he prefers to life; otherwise life itself will seem to him tiresome and void.

Seume

Aspiration

No bird soars too high if he soars with his own wings.

W. Blake

Aspiration

The desires and longings of man are vast as eternity, and they point him to it.

Tyron Edwards

Aspiration

The heart is a small thing, but desireth great matters. It is not sufficient for a kite's dinner, yet the whole world is not sufficient for it.

Quarles

Aspiration

There are glimpses of heaven to us in every act, or thought, or word, that raises us above ourselves.

A. P. Stanley

Aspiration

There is not a heart but has its moments of longing, yearning for something better, nobler, holier than it know now.

H. W. Beecher

Aspiration

There is not sorrow I have thought more about than that—to love what is great, and try to reach it, and yet to fail.

George Eliot

Aspiration

We are not to make the ideas of contentment and aspiration quarrel, for God made them fast friends. A man may aspire, and yet be quite content until it is time to raise; and both flying and resting are but parts of one contentment. The very fruit of the gospel is aspiration. It is to the heart what spring is to the earth, making every root, and bud, and bough desire to be more.

H. W. Beecher

Aspiration

You cannot demonstrate an emotion or prove an aspiration.

John Morely

Aspiration

Better not be than nothing.

Confucius

Aspiration

He who soars not, suffers not by a fall.

Mencius

Aspiration

If you don't scale the mountain, you can't view the plain.

Lao Tse

Aspiration

So nigh is grandeur to our dust; So near is God to man; When duty whispers low; 'I must;' The youth replies; 'I can.'

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Aspiration

What we truly and earnestly aspire to be; that in some sense we are. The mere aspiration; by changing their frame of mind; for the moment realizes itself.

Mrs. Jameson

Assertions

Assertion, unsupported by fact, is nugatory. Surmise and general abuse, in however elegant language, ought not to pass for truth.

Junius

Assertions

It is an impudent kind of sorcery to attempt to blind us with the smoke, without convincing us that the fire has existed.

Junius

Assertions

Weigh not so much what men assert, as what they prove. Truth is simple and naked, and needs not invention to apparel her comeliness.

Sir P. Sidney

Associates/Associations

A man should live with his superiors as he does with his fire: not too near, lest he burn; nor too far off, lest he freeze.

Diogenes

Associates/Associations

Be very circumspect in the choice of thy company. In the society of thine equals thou shalt enjoy more pleasure; in the society of thy superiors thou shalt find more profit. To be the best in the company is the way to grow worse; the best means to grow better is to be the worst there.

Quarles

Associates/Associations

Choose the company of your superiors whenever you can have it; that is the right and true pride.

Earl of Chesterfield

Associates/Associations

Company, villainous company hath been the ruin of me.

Shakespeare

Associates/Associations

Evil communications corrupt good manner.

Menander

Associates/Associations

Frequent intercourse and intimate connection between two persons, make them so alike, that not only their dispositions are molded like each other, but their very faces and tones of voice contract a similarity.

Lavater

Associates/Associations

If you wish to be held in esteem, you must associate only with those who are estimable.

Bruyere

Associates/Associations

In all societies it is advisable to associate if possible with the highest; not that they are always the best, but because, if disgusted there, we can always descend; but if we begin with the lowest to ascend is impossible.

Colton

Associates/Associations

It is best to be with those in time, that we hope to be with in eternity.

Fuller

Associates/Associations

It is certain that either wise bearing or ignorant carriage is caught, as men take diseases, one of another; therefore let men take heed of their company.

Shakespeare

Associates/Associations

It is meet that noble minds keep ever with their likes; for who so firm that cannot be seduced.

Shakespeare

Associates/Associations

It is no small happiness to attend those from whom we may receive precepts and examples of virtue.

Bp. Hall.

Associates/Associations

It is only when men associate with the wicked with the desire and purpose of doing them good, that they can rely upon the protection of God to preserve them from contamination.

C. Hodge

Associates/Associations

No company is far preferable to bad, because we are more apt to catch the vices of other than their virtues, as disease is more contagious than health.

Colton

Associates/Associations

No man can be provident of his time, who is not prudent in the choice of his company.

Jeremy Taylor

Associates/Associations

People will in a great degree, and not without reason, form their opinion of you by that they have of your friends, as, says the Spanish proverb, "Tell me with whom you live and I will tell you who you are."

Those unacquainted with the world take pleasures in intimacy with great men; those who are wiser fear the consequences.

Horace

Associates/Associations

When one associates with vice, it is but one step from companionship to slavery.

You may depend upon it that he is a good man whose intimate friends are all good, and whose enemies are decidedly bad.

Lavater

Associates/Associations

He whose heart is not excited on the spot which a martyr has sanctified by his sufferings, or at the grave of one who has greatly benefited mankind, must be more inferior to the multitude in his moral, than he possibly can be above them in his intellectual nature.

Southey

Associates/Associations

I have only to take up this or that to flood my soul with memories.

Madame Deluzy

Associates/Associations

That man is little to be envied whose patriotism would not gain force on the plain of Marathon, or whose piety would not grow warmer amid the ruins of Iona.

Johnson

Associates/Associations

There is no man who has not some interesting associations with particular scenes, or airs, or books, and who does not feel their beauty or sublimity enhanced to him by such connections.

Alison

Associates/Associations

Americans combine to give fetes, found seminaries, build churches, distribute books, and send missionaries to the antipodes. hospitals, prisons, and schools take shape in that way. Finally, if they want to proclaim a truth or propagate some feeling by the encouragement of a great example, they form an association. In every case, at the head of any new undertaking, where in France you would find the government or in England some territorial magnate, in the United States you are sure to find an association. I have come across several types of association in America of which, I confess, I had not previously the slightest conception, and I have often admired the extreme skill they show in proposing a common object for the exertions of very many and in inducing them voluntarily to pursue it.

Alexis de Tocqueville, Democracy in America, ed. J. P Mayer, trans. George Lawrence, vol. 2, part 2, chapter 5, pp. 513-14 (1969). Originally published in 1835-1840.

Astronomy

An undevout astronomer is mad.

Young

Astronomy

Astronomy compels the soul to look upwards and leads us from this world to another.

Plato

The Republic, VII, 529

Astronomy

Astronomy is one of the sublimest fields of human investigation. The mind that grasps its facts and principles receives something of the enlargement and grandeur belonging to the science itself. It is a quickener of devotion.

Horace Mann

Astronomy

No one can contemplate the great facts of astronomy without feeling his own littleness and the wonderful sweep of the power and providence of God.

Tyron Edwards

Agnosticism/Atheism

The atheist is one of the most daring beings in creation—a condemner of God who explodes his laws by denying his existence.

John Foster

Agnosticism/Atheism

There are absolute atheists….Absolute atheism is in no way a mere absence of belief in God. It is rather a refusal of God, a fight against God, a challenge to God.

Jacques Maritain

Agnosticism/Atheism

A little philosophy inclineth men's minds to atheism; but depth in philosophy bringeth men's minds to religion; for while the mind of man looketh upon second causes scattered, it may sometimes rest in them, and go no further.—But when it beholdeth the chain of them, confederate and linked together it must needs fly to Providence and Deity.

Bacon

Agnosticism/Atheism

A traveller amid the scenery of the Alps, surrounded by the sublimest demonstrations of God's power, had the hardihood to write against his name, in an album kept for visitors, "An atheist." Another who followed, shocked and indignant at the inscription, wrote beneath it, "If an atheist, a fool; if not, a liar!"

G. B. Cheever

Agnosticism/Atheism

An atheist is a man who has no invisible means of support.

Fulton J. Sheen

Agnosticism/Atheism

An irreligious man, a speculative or a practical atheist, is as a sovereign, who voluntarily takes off his crown and declares himself unworthy to reign.

Blackie

Agnosticism/Atheism

Atheism is a disease of the soul, before it becomes an error of the understanding.

Plato

Agnosticism/Atheism

Atheism is never the error of society, in any stage or circumstance whatever.—In the belief of a Deity savage and sage have alike agreed.—The great error has been, not the denial of one God, but the belief of many; but polytheism has been a popular and poetical, rather than a philosophical error.

Henry Fergus

Agnosticism/Atheism

Atheism is rather in the life than in the heart of man.

Bacon

Agnosticism/Atheism

Atheism is the death of hope, the suicide of the soul.

Atheism is the folly of the metaphysician, not the folly of human nature.

George Bancroft

Agnosticism/Atheism

Atheism, if it exists, is the result of ignorance and pride, of strong sense and feeble reason, of good eating and ill living. It is the plague of society, the corrupter of morals, and the underminer of property.

Jeremy Collier

Agnosticism/Atheism

Atheists put on a false courage in the midst of their darkness and misapprehensions, like children who when they fear to go in the dark, will sing or whistle to keep up their courage.

Pope

Agnosticism/Atheism

Few men are so obstinate in their atheism, that a pressing danger will not compel them to the acknowledgment of a divine power.

Plato

Agnosticism/Atheism

God never wrought miracles to convince atheism, because His ordinary works convince it.

Bacon

Agnosticism/Atheism

If a man of sober habits, moderate, chaste, and just in all his dealings should assert there is no God, he would at least speak without interested motives; but such a man is not to be found.

Bruyere

Agnosticism/Atheism

In agony or danger, no nature is atheist. The mind that knows not what to fly to, flies to God.

H. More

Agnosticism/Atheism

No one is so thoroughly superstitious as the godless man. Life and death to him are haunted grounds, filled with goblin forms of vague and shadowy dread.

Mrs. Stowe

Agnosticism/Atheism

The atheist is one who fain would pull God from his throne, and in the place of heaven's eternal king set up the phantom chance.

Glynn

Agnosticism/Atheism

The footprint of the savage in the sand is sufficient to prove the presence of man to the atheist who will not recognize God though his hand is impressed on the entire universe.

Hugh Miller

Agnosticism/Atheism

The three great apostles of practical atheism that make converts without persecuting, and retain them without preaching, are health, wealth, and power.

Colton

Agnosticism/Atheism

There are innumerable souls that would resent the charge of the fool's atheism, yet daily deny God in very deed.

John Foster

Agnosticism/Atheism

There are no atheists in the foxholes of Bataan.

Douglas MacArthur

Agnosticism/Atheism

There are pseudo-atheists who believe that they believe in God (and who perhaps believe in Him in their brains) but who in reality deny his existence by each one of their deeds.

Jacques Maritain

Agnosticism/Atheism

To be an atheist requires an infinitely greater measure of faith than to receive all the great truths which atheism would deny.

Addison

Agnosticism/Atheism

Virtue in distress, and vice in triumph, make atheists of mankind.

Dryden

Agnosticism/Atheism

What can be more foolish than to think that all this rare fabric of heaven and earth could come by chance, when all the skill of art is not able to make an oyster? To see rare effects, and no cause; a motion, without a mover; a circle, without a centre; a time, without an eternity; a second, without a first: these are things so against philosophy and natural reason, that he must be a beast in understanding who can believe in them. The thing formed, says that nothing formed it; and that which is made, is, while that which made it is not! This folly is infinite.

Jeremy Taylor

Agnosticism/Atheism

Whoever considers the study of anatomy can never be an atheist.

Lord Herbert

Athenian Oath

I will not disgrace my sacred arms

Nor desert my comrade, wherever I am stationed.

I will fight for things sacred And things profane.

And both alone and with all to help me.

I will transmit my fatherland not diminished But greater and better than before.

I will obey the ruling magistrates Who rule reasonably And I will observe the established laws And whatever laws in the future May be reasonably established. If any person seek to overturn the laws, Both alone and with all to help me, I will oppose him.

I will honor the religion of my fathers.

I call to witness the Gods .

The borders of my fatherland, The wheat, the barley, the vines, And the trees of the olive and the fig.

Athenian Ephebic Oath, trans. Clarence A. Forbes.—Fletcher Harper Swift, The Athenian Ephebic Oath of Allegiance in American Schools and Colleges, University of California Publications in Education, vol. 11, no. 1, p. 4 (1947).

"The true and exact text of the Athenian ephebic oath is no longer in doubt. In 1932, L'Ecole Française d'Athenes discovered in the ancient Athenian deme (township) of Archarnae a fourth-century stele on which was engraved 'in dubitable letters of stone the true, ancient, authentic and official wording of the oath.'" (pp. 2-3)

"Less widely known [than the Oath of Hippocrates] but of equally surpassing nobility is the ancient Athenian oath of citizenship, dating probably from 'very early times.' Later, it was adopted as the oath to be taken by ephebi, young men of eighteen to twenty years, enrolled in the Ephebic College established in 335-334 B.C. to implement a state-supported system of military training…. every legitimate son of pure Athenian parentage who had reached the age of eighteen must, in order to be admitted to citizenship, be enrolled therein and undergo its two-year course of rigorous training in military and civic duties and activities." At the end of the first year each ephebus was given a spear and a shield; after receiving these arms, the ephebi took their oath. (pp. 1-2)

Adaptations of the oath, with varying translations, have been used by American colleges and universities.

Attention

Attention makes the genius; all learning, fancy, science, and skill depend upon it.—Newton traced his great discoveries to it.—It builds bridges, opens new worlds, heals diseases, carries on the business of the world.—Without it taste is useless, and the beauties of literature unobserved.

Wilmott

Attention

Few things are impracticable in themselves: and it is for want of application, rather than of means, that men fail of success.

Rochefoucauld

Attention

If I have made any improvement in the sciences, it is owing more to patient attention than to anything beside.

Sir Isaac Newton

Attention

If there be anything that can be called genius, it consists chiefly in ability to give that attention to a subject which keeps it steadily in the mind, till we have surveyed it accurately on all sides.

Thomas Reid

Attention

It is attention, more than any difference between minds and men.—In this is the source of poetic genius, and of the genius of discovery in science,—It was this that led Newton to the invention of fluxions, and the discovery of gravitation, and Harvey to find out the circulation of the blood, and Davy to those views which laid the foundation of modern chemistry.

Brodie

Attention

The power of applying attention, steady and undissipated, to a single object, is the sure mark of a superior genius.

Earl of Chesterfield

Attitude

A self-satisfied, self-sufficient attitude amounts to nothing more than inefficiency.

Socrates

Attitude

A stale article, if you dip it in a good, warm, sunny smile, will go off better than a fresh one that you've scowled upon.

Nathaniel Hawthorne

Attitude

Act as though you cannot fail but keep a humble spirit.

Author Unknown

Attitude

Bad men live that they may eat and drink, whereas good men eat and drink that they may live.

Socrates

Attitude

Boredom is a disease of the mind and psyche, an insidious disease. It not only takes the joy out of life, but the creativity as well. No one of God's children should ever be bored with life.

Author Unknown

Attitude

Defeat may serve as well as victory to shake the soul and let the glory out.

Edwin Markham

Attitude

Do not quarrel with your lot in life. Do not complain of its never-ceasing cares, its environment, the vexations you have to stand, the small and sordid souls you have to live and work with. Above all, do not resent temptation; do not be perplexed because it seems to thicken around you more and more, and ceases neither for effort nor for agony and prayer. That is your practice. That is the practice which God appoints you. And it is having its work in making you patient, and humble, and generous, and unselfish, and kind, and courteous.

Henry Drummond

Attitude

Don't worry if your job is small and your rewards few. Remember that the mighty oak was once a nut like you.

Author Unknown

Attitude

Even the Emperor has straw-sandaled relatives.

Confucius

Attitude

He who renounces fame has no sorrow.

Lao Tse

Attitude

Health Spa—Waist Treatment Plant

Batuik

Attitude

I have lived long enough to be battered by the realities of life and not too long to be downed by them.

John Mason Brown

Attitude

I have never met a man who was not my superior in some particular.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Attitude

I love the man who can smile in trouble, and who can gather strength from distress, and grow brave by reflection.

Thomas Paine

Attitude

I make my generals out of mud.

Napoleon Bonaparte

Attitude

I never think about the past, only about the present and the future, and I always conceive of myself as growing. I have never had one second of boredom since I was born.

Mary Martin

Attitude

If Heaven wants to rain, or your mother to marry again, nothing can prevent them.

Mencius

Attitude

If the world despises you because you do not follow its ways, pay no heed to it. But be sure your way is right.

Author Unknown

Attitude

If you keep saying things are going to be bad, you have a good chance to be a prophet.

Isaac Bashevis Singer

Attitude

If you treat every situation as a life and death matter, you'll die a lot of times.

Dean Smith

Attitude

Impossible is not a French word. It is a word fit only for the dictionary of fools.

Napoleon Bonaparte

Attitude

In every block of marble I see a statue, see it as plainly as though it stood before me, shaped and perfect in attitude and action. I have only to hew away the rough walls to reveal it to other eyes as mine already see it.

Michelangelo

Attitude

In this world nothing can be said to be certain, except death and taxes.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Attitude

Instead of 'have a good day'—' make it a good day.'

Author Unknown

Attitude

Into each life some rain must fall.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Attitude

It's better to be a lion for a day than a sheep all your life.

Sister Kenney

Attitude

It's not true that nice guys finish last—Nice guys are winners before the game even starts.

Addison Walker

Attitude

Look for the best, prepare for the worst, and take what comes.

Author Unknown

Attitude

Lord help me to remember that nothings going to happen to me today that you and I together can't handle.

Morning Prayer

Attitude

Man is not the creature of circumstances, circumstances are the creatures of men.

Benjamin Disraeli

Attitude

No great scoundrel is ever uninteresting.

Murray Kempton

Attitude

Nothing can stop people with the right attitudes from achieving their goals.

Author Unknown

Attitude

Nourish a sick, but never an idle, servant.

Lao Tse

Attitude

One actor cannot make a play.

Lao Tse

Attitude

One cannot collect all the beautiful shells on the beach. One can collect only a few and they are more beautiful if they are a few.

Anne Morrow Lindbergh

Attitude

One place where you're sure to find the perfect driver is in the back seat.

Homer Phillips

Attitude

One's outlook is a large part of one's virtue.

Alcott

Attitude

The cynic is one who never sees a good quality in a man, and never fails to see a bad one. He is the human owl, vigilant in darkness and blind to light, mousing for vermin, and never seeing noble game. The cynic puts all human actions into two classes—openly bad and secretly bad.

Henry Ward Beecher

Attitude

The doctor knows what his trained eyes see—And he says it's the last of the ninth for me. So one more thing while the clouds loom dark and then I must leave this noisy park.

Author Unknown

Attitude

The greatest discovery of my generation is that you can change your circumstances by changing your attitudes of mind.

William James

Attitude

The mass of men lead lives of quiet desperation.

Henry David Thoreau

Attitude

The most vital thing in a man's life is his mental attitude.

Author Unknown

Attitude

The only difference between a rut and a grave is that one is just a little deeper than the other.

Author Unknown

Attitude

The pessimist complains about the wind; the optimist expects it to change; the realist adjusts the sail.

William Arthur Ward

Attitude

There is no such thing in human existence as being so high you're not responsible to anybody.

Lawrence A. Appley

Attitude

There is nothing impossible to him who will try.

Alexander the Great

Attitude

Those who have free seats at the play hiss first.

Lao Tse

Attitude

Those who say it can't be done are usually interrupted by others doing it.

Author Unknown

Attitude

To be seventy years young is sometimes far more cheerful and hopeful than to be forty years old.

Oliver Wendell Holmes

Attitude

Turn your scars into stars.

Robert Schuller

Attitude

Water can both sustain and engulf a ship.

Confucius

Attitude

What we all tend to complain about most in other people are those things we don't like about ourselves.

William Wharton

Attitude

When life seems just a dreary grind; and things seem fated to annoy; say something nice to someone else and watch the world light up with joy.

Author Unknown

Attitude

Whether zeal or moderation be the point we aim at, let us keep the fire out of the one, and the frost out of the other.

Joseph Addison

Attitude

Your attitude is contagious, unless you have a good time talking, your audience won't have a good time listening.

Author Unknown

Attitude

Your future is not determined by circumstances over which you have no control, but is conditioned by the attitude you have toward yourself, toward other people, toward the world, and toward God.

Norman Vincent Peale

Attitude

Your outlook determines your future.

Norman Vincent Peale

Authors/Authorship

He who proposes to be an author should first be a student.

John Dryden

Authors/Authorship

The author who speaks about his own books is almost as bad as the mother who talks about her own children.

Benjamin Disraeli

Authors/Authorship

The most original authors are not so because they advance what is new, but because they put what they have to say as if it had never been said before.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Authors/Authorship

The two most engaging powers of an author are to make new things familiar, and familiar things new.

Samuel Johnson

Authors/Authorship

What a blessed thing it is that nature, when she invented manufactured and patented her authors, contrive to make critics out of the chips that were left!

Oliver Wendell Holmes

Authority

All authority belongs to the people.

Thomas Jefferson

Authority

He who is firmly seated in authority soon learns to think security, and not progress, the highest lesson of statecraft.

J. R. Lowell

Authority

Man, proud man! dressed in a little brief authority, plays such fantastic tricks before high heaven as make the angels weep.

Shakespeare

Authority

Nothing is more gratifying to the mind of man than power or dominance.

Addison

Authority

Nothing more impairs authority than a too frequent or indiscreet use of it. If thunder itself was to be continual, it would excite no more terror than the noise of a mill.

Nothing sooner overthrows a weak head than opinion of authority; like too strong liquor for a frail glass.

Sir P. Sidney

Authority

There are four qualities essential to royal authority: first, the royal authority is sacred; second, it is paternal; third, it is absolute; fourth, it is submitted to reason.

Jacques Benigne Bossuet

Oeuvres de Bossuet, translated by Franklin Le Van Baumer, in his Main Currents of Western Thought.

Authority

They that govern make least noise, as they that row the barge do work and puff and sweat, while he that governs sits quietly at the stern, and scarce is seen to stir.

John Selden

Authority

Who dares affirm the absurdity that man can originate for himself a priesthood which God shall honor and respect.

Author Unknown

Authors/Authorship

I have heard that nothing gives an author so great pleasure as to find his works respectfully quoted by other learned authors.

Benjamin Franklin

Authors/Authorship

A great writer is the friend and benefactor of his readers.

Macaulay

Authors/Authorship

Authorship is a royal priesthood; but woe to him who rashly lays unhallowed hands on the ark or altar, professing a zeal for the welfare of the race, only to secure his own selfish ends.

Horace Greeley

Authors/Authorship

Authorship, according to the spirit in which it is pursued, is an infancy a pastime, a labor, a handicraft, an art, a science, or a virtue.

Schlegel

Authors/Authorship

Clear writers, like clear fountains, do not seem so deep as they are; the turbid seem the most profound.

Landor

Authors/Authorship

Every author in some degree portrays himself in his works, even if it be against his will.

Goethe

Authors/Authorship

It is doubtful whether mankind are most indebted to those who like Bacon and Butler dig the gold from the mine of literature, or to those who, like Paley, purify it, stamp it, fix its real value, and give it currency and utility.

Colton

Authors/Authorship

It is quite as much of a trade to make a book, as to make a clock. It requires more than mere genius to be an author.

Bruyere

Authors/Authorship

Never write on a subject without first having read yourself full on it; and never read on a subject till you have thought yourself hungry on it.

Richter

Authors/Authorship

Next to doing things that deserve to be written, nothing gets a man more credit, or gives him more pleasure than to write things that deserve to be read.

Earl of Chesterfield

Authors/Authorship

No author is so poor that he cannot be of some service, if only as a witness of his time.

Fauchet

Authors/Authorship

No fathers or mothers think their own children ugly; and this self-deceit is yet stronger with respect to the offspring of the mind.

Cervantes

Authors/Authorship

Satire lies about men of letters during their lives, and eulogy after their death.

Voltaire

Authors/Authorship

Talent alone cannot make a writer; there must be a man behind the book.

Emerson

Authors/Authorship

The chief glory of a country, says Johnson, arises from its authors. But this is only when they are oracles of wisdom. Unless they teach virtue they are more worthy of a halter than of the laurel.

Jane Porter

Authors/Authorship

There are three difficulties in authorship:—to write anything worth publishing—to find honest men to publish it—and to get sensible men to read it.

Colton

Authors/Authorship

To write well is to think well, to feel well, and to render well; it is to possess at once intellect, soul, and taste.

Buffon

Authors/Authorship

Writers are the main landmarks of the past.

Bulwer

Automation

It is questionable if all the mechanical inventions yet made have lightened the day's toil of any human being.

John Stuart Mill

Automation

Lo! Men have become the tools of their tools.

Henry David Thoreau

Autumn

A moral character is attached to autumnal scenes. The flowers fading like our hopes, the leaves falling like our years, the clouds fleeting like our illusions, the light diminishing like our intelligence, the sun growing colder like our affections, the rivers becoming frozen like our lives—all bear secret relations to our destinies.

Chateaubriand

Autumn

Magnificent autumn! He comes not like a pilgrim, clad in russet weeds; not like a hermit, clad in gray; but like a warrior with the stain of blood on his brazen mail. His crimson scarf is rent; his scarlet banner dripping with gore; his step like flail on the threshing door.

Longfellow

Autumn

O, it sets my heart a clickin' like the tickin' of a clock, when the frost is on the punkin and the fodder's in the shock.

James Whitcomb Riley

Autumn

Season of mist and mellow fruitfulness.

Keats

Autumn

The leaves in autumn do not change color from the blighting touch of frost, but from the process of natural decay. They fall when the fruit is ripened, and their work is done. And their splendid coloring is but their graceful and beautiful surrender of life when they have finished their summer offering of service to God and man. And one of the great lessons the fall of the leaf teaches, is this: Do your work well, and then be ready to depart when God shall call.

Tyron Edwards

Autumn

The melancholy days are come, the saddest of the year.

Bryant

Autumn

The tents of autumn—a mighty flower garden, blossoming under the spell of the enchanter, frost.

Whittier

Autumn

Who at his season does not feel impressed with a sentiment of melancholy? Or who is able to resist the current of thought, which, from the appearances of decay, so naturally leads to the solemn imagination of that inevitable fate which is to bring on alike the decay of life, of empire, and of nature itself?

A. Alison

Autumn

Who at this season does not feel impressed with a sentiment of melancholy?

A. Alison

Avarice

All the good things of the world are no further good to us than as they are of use; and of all we may heap up we enjoy only as much as we can use, and no more.

Defoe

Avarice

As objects close to the eye shut out larger objects on the horizon, so man sometimes covers up the entire disc of eternity with a dollar, and quenches transcendent glories with a little shining dust.

E. H. Chapin

Avarice

Avarice increases with the increasing pile of gold.

Juvenal

Avarice

Avarice is always poor, but poor by its own fault.

Johnson

Avarice

Avarice is to the intellect and heart, what sensuality is to the morals.

Anna Jameson

Avarice

Avarice is wider than injustice, and all fallen nations lost liberty through avarice which engendered injustice.

Austin O'Malley

Avarice

How quickly nature falls into revolt when gold becomes her object.

Shakespeare

Avarice

How widely has he lost himself who has become a slave to his servant, exalts him to the dignity of his Maker!

Penn

Avarice

It is one of the worst effects of prosperity that it makes a man a vortex instead of a fountain, so that instead of throwing out, he learns only to draw in.

H. W. Beecher

Avarice

Poverty wants some things, luxury many, avarice all things.

Cowley

Avarice

Some men are thought sagacious merely on account of their avarice; whereas a child can clench its fist the moment it is born.

Shenstone

Avarice

Study rather to fill your mind than your coffers; knowing that gold and silver were originally mingles with dirt, until avarice or ambition parted them.

Seneca

Avarice

The avaricious man is like the barren sandy ground of the desert which sucks in all the rain and dew with greediness, but yields no fruitful herbs or plants for the benefit of others.

Zeno

Avarice

The lust of avarice has to totally seized upon mankind that their wealth seems rather to possess them, than they to possess their wealth.

Pliny

Avarice

The lust of gold, unfeeling and remorseless, the last corruption of degenerate man.

Johnson

Avarice

We are but stewards of what we falsely call our own; yet avarice is so insatiable that it is not in the power of abundance to content it.

Seneca

Avarice

Worse poison to men's souls, doing more murders in this loathsome world than any mortal drug.

Shakespeare

Aviation

A bird is an instrument working according to mathematical law, which instrument it is within the capacity of man to reproduce with all its movements.

Leonardo Da Vinci

Aviation

All except very short distance, high class, passenger travel will be by air in the days to come.

Anthony H. G. Fokker

Aviation

Armies do not protect against the aerial way.

Alexander Graham Bell

Aviation

For I dipt into the future far as human eye can see,

Saw the vision of the world, and all the wonder that would be;

Saw the heavens filled with commerce, argosies of magic sails,

Pilots of the purple twilight, dropping down with costly bales;

Heard the heavens filled with shouting, and there rained a ghastly dew

From the nations' airy navies, grappling in the central blue.

Tennyson

Aviation

In a few years the young man and even the young woman who has not learned to fly will be regarded as natural phenomena as today are those who cannot drive automobiles.

F. A. Tichenor

Aviation

In aeronautics one finds new things only by looking for them.

Cierva

Aviation

In the development of no other branch of engineering has scientific work been so intensive or so rapid as in aeronautics.

Alexander Klemin

Aviation

Lindbergh Flies Alone.—Alone? Is he alone at whose right side rides Courage, with Skill within the cockpit and Faith upon his left? Does solitude surround the brave when Adventure leads the way and Ambition reads the dials? Is there no company with him for whom the air is cleft by Daring and the darkness is made light by Emprise? True, the fragile bodies of his weaker fellows do not weigh down his plan; true, the fretful minds of weaker men are lacking from his crowded cabin; but as his airship keeps her course he holds communion with those rarer spirits that inspire to intrepidity and by their sustaining potency give strength to arm, resource to mind, content to soul. Alone? With what other companions would that man fly to whom the choice is given?

Editorial in the New York "Sun"

Awareness

Thoreau wrote: "Only that day dawns to which we are awake." The art of awareness is the art of learning how to wake up to the eternal miracle of life with its limitless possibilities.

IT IS rising to the challenge of the stirring old hymn: "Awake my soul, stretch every nerve."

IT IS developing the deep sensitivity through which you may suffer and know tragedy, and die a little, but through which you will also experience the grandeur of human life.

IT IS following the philosophy of Albert Schweitzer who teaches "reverence for life," from ants to men; it is developing a sense of oneness with all life.

IT IS identifying yourself with the hopes, dreams, fears and longings of others, that you may understand them and help them.

IT IS learning to interpret the thoughts, feelings and moods of others through their words, tones, inflections, facial expressions and movements.

IT IS keeping mentally alert to all that goes on around you; it is being curious, observant, imaginative that you may build an ever increasing fund of knowledge of the universe.

IT IS striving to stretch the range of the eye and ear; it is taking the time to look and listen and comprehend.

IT IS searching for beauty everywhere, in a flower, a mountain, a machine, a sonnet and a symphony.

IT IS knowing wonder, awe and humility in the face of life's unexplained mysteries.

IT IS discovering the mystic power of the silence and coming to know the secret inner voice of intuition.

IT IS avoiding blind spots in considering problems and situations; it is striving "to see life steadily and see it whole."

IT IS enlarging the scope of your life through the expansion of your personality.

IT IS through a growing awareness that you stock and enrich your memory…and as a great philosopher has said:"A man thinks with his memory."

Wilfred A. Peterson

Awkwardness

An awkward man never does justice to himself; to his intelligence, to his intentions, or to his actual merit. A fine person, or a beauteous face are in vain without the grace of department.

Churchill

Awkwardness

Awkwardness is a more real disadvantage than it is generally thought to be: it often occasions ridicule, and always lessens dignity.

Earl of Chesterfield

Babblers

Fire and sword are but slow engines of destruction in comparison with the babbler.

Steele

Babblers

Talkers are no good doers, be assured. We go to use our hands and not our tongues.

Shakespeare

Babies/Children/Childhood

Of all the joys that lighten suffering earth, what joy is welcomed like a new-born child?

A babe in the house is a well-spring of pleasure, a messenger of peace and love, a resting place for innocence on earth, a link between angels and men.

Tupper

Babies/Children/Childhood

A rose with all its sweetest leaves yet folded.

Byron

Babies/Children/Childhood

A sweet new blossom of humanity, fresh fallen from God's own home, to flower on earth.

Massey

Babies/Children/Childhood

Could we understand half what mothers say and do to us when infants, we should be filled with such conceit of our own importance as would make us insupportable through life.—Happy the child whose mother is tired of talking nonsense to him before he is old enough to know the sense of it.

Hare

Babies/Children/Childhood

Good Christian people, here is for you an inestimable loan. Take all heed thereof, and in all carefulness employ it. With high recompense, or else with heavy penalty, will it one day be required back.

Carlyle

Babies/Children/Childhood

Living jewels, dropped unstained from heaven.

Pollok

Babies/Children/Childhood

Some wonder that children should be given to young mothers. But what instruction does the babe bring to the mother! She learns patience, self-control, endurance; her very arm grows strong so that she holds the dear burden longer than the father can.

T. W. Higginson

Babies/Children/Childhood

The coarsest father gains a new impulse to labor from the moment of his baby's birth. Every stroke he strikes is for his child. New social aims, and new moral motives come vaguely up to him.

T. W. Higginson

Bachelor

A bachelor's life is a splendid breakfast; a tolerably flat dinner; and a most miserable supper.

Author Unknown

Bachelor

A man unattached, and without a wife, if he have any genius at all, may raise himself above his original position, may mingle with the world of fashion, and hold himself on a level with the highest; but this is less easy for him who is engaged. It seems as if marriage put the whole world in their proper rank.

Bruyere

Bachelor

Because I will not do the to wrong mistrust any, I will do myself the right to trust none; I will live a bachelor.

Shakespeare

Bachelor

I have no wife or children, good or bad, to provide for; a mere spectator of other men's fortunes and adventures, and how they play their parts; which, methinks, are diversely presented unto me, as from a common theatre or scene.

Burton

Balance

Have a care where there is more sail than ballast.

William Penn

Ballads

A well composed song or ballad strikes the mind, and softens the feelings, and produces a greater effect than a moral work, which convinces our reason but does not warm our feelings or effect the slightest alteration of our habits.

Napoleon

Ballads

Ballads and popular songs are both the cause and effect of general morals; they are first formed, and then re-act. In both points of view they are an index of public morals.

H. Martineau

Ballads

Ballads are the gupsy children of song, born under green hedge-rows, in the leafy lanes and by-paths of literature, in the genial summer time.

Longfellow

Ballads

Ballads are the vocal portraits of the national mind.

Lamb

Ballads

Let me write the ballads of a nation, and I care not who make its laws.

Fletcher

Bargain

I will give thrice so much land to any well-deserving friend; but in the way of bargain, mark me. I will cavil on the ninth part of a hair.

Shakespeare

Bargain

There are many things which one gains and the other loses; but if it is essential to any transaction that only one side shall gain, the thing is not of God.

G. MacDonald

Bargain

A dear bargain is always disagreeable particularly as it is a reflection on the buyer's judgment.

Sometimes one pays most for the things one gets for nothing.

Whenever you buy or sell, let or hire, make a definite bargain, and never trust to the flattering lie, "We shan't disagree about trifles."

G. MacDonald

Baseness

Baseness of character or conduct not only sears the conscience, but deranges the intellect. Right conduct is connected with right views of truth.

Colton

Baseness

Every base occupation makes one sharp in its practice, and dull in every other.

Sir P. Sidney

Baseness

There is a law of forces which hinders bodies from a sinking beyond a certain depth in the sea; but in the ocean of baseness the deeper we get the easier the sinking.

J. R. Lowell

Bashfulness

Bashfulness is a great hindrance to a man, both in uttering his sentiments and in understanding what is proposed to him; it is therefore good to press forward with discretion, both in discourse and company of the better sort.

Bacon

Bashfulness

Bashfulness is an ornament to youth, but a reproach to old age.

Aristotle

Bashfulness

Bashfulness is more frequently connected with good sense than with over-assurance; and impudence, on the other hand, is often the effect of downright stupidity.

Shenstone

Bashfulness

Bashfulness may sometimes exclude pleasure, but seldom opens any avenue to sorrow or remorse.

Johnson

Bashfulness

Conceit not so high an opinion of any one as to be bashful and impotent in their presence.

Fuller

Bashfulness

There are two kinds of bashfulness; one, the awkwardness of the body, which a few steps into the world will convert into the pertness of a coxcomb; the other, a consciousness, which the most dilicate feelings produce, and the most extensive knowledge cannot always remove.

Mackenzie

Bashfulness

We do not accept as genuine the person not characterized by this blushing bashfulness, this youthfulness of heart, this sensibility to the sentiment of sauvity and self-respect. Modesty is bred of self-reverence. Fine manners are the mantle of fair minds. None are truly great without this ornament.

A. B. Alcott

Bashfulness

We must prune it with care, so as only to remove the redundant branches, and not injure the stem, which has its root in a generous sensitiveness to shame.

Plutarch

Beauty

When in the chronicle of wasted time

I see descriptions of the fairest wights,

And beauty making beautiful old rime,

In praise of ladies dead and lovely knights,

Then, in the blazon of sweet beauty's best,

Of hand, of foot, of lip, of eye, of brow,

I see their antique pen would have express'd

Even such a beauty as you master now.

William Shakespeare

Sonnet 106, 1

Beauty

Beauty stands

In the admiration only of weak minds

Led captive.

John Milton

Paradise Regained, II, 220

Beauty

In naked beauty more adorn'd,

More lovely, than Pandora.

John Milton

Paradise Lost, IV, 713

Beauty

A very stately palace before him, the name of which was Beautiful.

John Bunyan

Pilgrim's Progress. Apology for His Book

Beauty

A woman who could always love would never grow old; and the love of mother and wife would often give or preserve many charms if it were not too often combined with parental and conjugal anger. There remains in the face of women who are naturally serene and peaceful, and of those rendered so by religion, an after-spring, and later an after-summer, the reflex of their

most beautiful bloom.

Richter

Beauty

After all, it is the divinity within that makes the divinity without; and I have been more fascinated by a woman of talent and intelligence, though deficient in personal charms, than I have been by the most regular beauty.

Washington Irving

Beauty

All are most beautiful, of a thousand shapes, and all accessible, and filled with trees of a thousand kinds and tall, and they seem to touch the sky; and I am told that they never lose their foliage, which I can believe, for I saw them as green and beautiful as they are in Spain.

Christopher Columbus

Letter to the Sovereigns on the First Voyage, February 15-March

4, 1493

Beauty

All beauty does not inspire love; some beauties please the sign without captivating the affections.

Cervantes

Beauty

All orators are dumb when beauty pleadeth.

William Shakespeare

The Rape of Lucrece, 268

Beauty

An appearance of delicacy, and even of fragility, is almost essential to beauty.

Burke

Beauty

Beauty and folly are generally companions.

Baltasar Gracian

Beauty

Beauty and wisdom are rarely conjoined.

Gaius Petronius [Petronius Arbiter]

Satyricon, 94

Beauty

Beauty attracts us men; but if, like an armed magnet it is pointed, beside, with gold or silver, it attracts with tenfold power.

Richter

Beauty

Beauty hath so many charms one knows not how to speak against it; and when a graceful figure is the habitation of a virtuous soul—when the beauty of the face speaks out the modesty and humility of the mind, it raises our thoughts up to the great Creator; but after all, beauty, like truth, is never so glorious as when it goes the plainest.

Sterne

Beauty

Beauty in a modest woman is like fire at a distance, or a sharp sword beyond reach.—The one does not burn, or the other wound those that come not too near them.

Cervantes

Beauty

Beauty is a gift of God.

Aristotle

Beauty

Beauty is an outward gift which is seldom despised, except by those to whom it has been refused.

Gibbon

Beauty

Beauty is as summer fruits which are easy to corrupt and cannot last; and for the most part it makes a dissolute youth, and an age a little out of countenance; but if it light well, it makes virtues shine and vice blush.

Bacon

Beauty

Beauty is but a vain and doubtful good; a shining gloss that fadeth suddenly; a flower that dies when it begins to bud; a doubtful good, a gloss, a glass, a flower, lost, faded, broken, dead within an hour.

Shakespeare

Beauty

Beauty is but the sensible image of the Infinite.—Like truth and justice it lives within us; like virtue and the moral law it is a companion of the soul.

Bancroft

Beauty

Beauty is like an almanack: if it last a year it is well.

Thomas Adams

Beauty

Beauty is often worse than wine; intoxicating both the holder and beholder.

Zimmermann

Beauty

Beauty is the first present nature gives to women and the first it takes away.

Méré

Beauty

Beauty is the gift of God.

Aristotle

From Diogenes Laertius, V, 19

Beauty

Beauty is the mark God sets on virtue.—Every natural action is graceful; every heroic act is also decent, and causes the place and the bystanders to shine.

Emerson

Beauty

Beauty itself doth of itself persuade

The eyes of men without an orator.

William Shakespeare

The Rape of Lucrece, 29

Beauty

Beauty of form affects the mind, but then it must not be the mere shell that we admire, but the thought that this shell is only the beautiful case adjusted to the shape and value of a still more beautiful pearl within.—The perfection of outward loveliness is the soul shining through its crystalline covering.

Jane Porter

Beauty

Beauty will save the world.

Fyodor Dostoyevski (1821-1881)

Quoted by Solzhenitsyn, Noble Price acceptance speech, 1970

Beauty

Beauty, unaccompanied by virtue, is as a flower without perfume.

From the French

Beauty

Beauty—the adjustment of all parts proportionately so that one cannot add or subtract or change without impairing the harmony of the whole.

Leon Battista Alberti

Beauty

Beholding beauty with the eye of the mind, he will be enabled to bring forth, not images of beauty, but realities (for he has hold not of an image but of a reality), and bringing forth and nourishing true virtue to become the friend of God and be immortal, if mortal man may.

Plato

Dialogues, Symposium, 212

Beauty

By cultivating the beautiful we scatter the seeds of heavenly flowers, as by doing good we cultivate those that belong to humanity.

Howard

Beauty

Every trait of beauty may be referred to some virtue, as to innocence, candor, generosity, modesty, or heroism.

St. Pierre

Beauty

Every year of my life I grow more convinced that it is wisest and best to fix our attention on the beautiful and the good, and dwell as little as possible on the evil and the false.

Cecil

Beauty

Gather ye rose-buds while ye may,

Old Time is still a-flying:

And this same flower that smiles today,

Tomorrow will be dying.

Robert Herrick

Beauty

Heaven and Earth never agreed better to frame a place for man's habitation; were it fully manured and inhabited by industrious people. Here are mountaines, hills, plaines, valleyes, rivers, and brookes, all running most pleasantly into a faire Bay, compassed but for the mouth, with fruitfull and delightsome land.

Captain John Smith, description of countryside around Chesapeake Bay, 1606, The Generall Historie of Virginia, New England & The Summer Isles, vol. 2, pp. 44-45 (1907).

Beauty

How goodness heightens beauty!

Hannah More

Beauty

How much wit, good-nature, indulgences, how many good offices and civilities, are required among friends to accomplish in some years what a lovely face or a fine hand does in a minute!

Bruyere.

Beauty

If either man or woman would realize the full power of personal beauty, it must be by cherishing noble thoughts and hopes and purposes; by having something to do and something to live for that is worthy of humanity, and which, by expanding the capacities of the soul, gives expansion and symmetry to the body which contains it.

Upham

Beauty

If Jack's in love, he's no judge of Jill's beauty.

Benjamin Franklin

Beauty

If the nose of Cleopatra had been a little shorter, it would have changed the history of the world.

Pascal

Beauty

If you tell a woman she is beautiful, whisper it softly; for if the devil hears it he'll echo it many times.

Durivage

Beauty

In all ranks of life the human heart yearns for the beautiful; and the beautiful things that God makes are his gift to all alike.

Harriet Beecher Stowe

Beauty

It is perhaps the highest distinction of the Greeks that they recognized the indissoluble connection of beauty and goodness.

Charles E. Norton

Beauty

It's a sort of bloom on a woman. If you have it you don't need to have anything else; and if you don't have it, it doesn't much matter what else you have.

Sir James M. Barrie

Beauty

Loveliness needs not the aid of foreign ornament, but is, when unadorned, adorned the most.

Thomson

Beauty

My comfort is, that old age, that ill layer-up of beauty, can do no more spoil upon my face.

William Shakespeare

King Henry V, V, ii, 246

Beauty

Never lose an opportunity of seeing anything that is beautiful; for beauty is God's handwriting—a wayside sacrament. Welcome it in every fair face, in every fair sky, in every fair flower, and thank God for it as a cup of blessing.

Emerson

Beauty

No man receives the full culture of a man in whom the sensibility to the beautiful is not cherished; and there is no condition of life from which it should be excluded.—Of all luxuries this is the cheapest, and the most at hand, and most important to those conditions where coarse labor tends to give grossness to the mind.

Channing

Beauty

Oh, thou are fairer than the evening air

Clad in the beauty of a thousand stars.

Christopher Marlowe

The Tragical History of Doctor Faustus, sc. xiv

Beauty

Old as I am, for ladies' love unfit,

The power of beauty I remember yet.

John Dryden

Fables Ancient and Modern. Cymon and Iphigenia, 1

Beauty

Rarely do great beauty and great virtue dwell together.

Petrarch [Francesco Petrarca]

De Remedies, bk. II

Beauty

Rose among thorns.

Ammianus Marcellinus

History, XVI, 17

Beauty

She who is born beautiful is born with sorrow for many a man.

Confucius (551-479 B.C.)

Analects (various translations)

Beauty

Socrates called beauty a short-lived tyranny; Plato, a privilege of nature; Theophrastus, a silent cheat; Theocritus, a delightful prejudice; Carneades, a solitary kingdom; Aristotle, that it was better than all the letters of recommmendation in the world; Homer, that it was a glorious gift of nature, and Oivd, that is was a favor bestowed by the gods.

The fountain of beauty is the heart, and every generous thought illustrates the walls of your chamber.

If virtue accompanies beauty it is the heart's paradise; if vice be associated with it, it is the soul's purgatory. It is the wise man's bonfire, and the fool's furnace.

Quarles

Beauty

There is no beautifier of complexion, or form, or behavior, like the wish to scatter joy and not pain around us.

Even virtue is more fair when it appears in a beautiful person.

Virgil

Beauty

That which is beautiful is moral, that is all, nothing more.

Gustave Flaubert (1821-1880)

Letters, To Maupassant, October 26, 1871

Beauty

That which is striking and beautiful is not always good; but that which is good is always beautiful.

Ninon de Lenclos

Beauty

The awful thing is that beauty is mysterious as well as terrible. God and the devil are fighting there, and the battlefield is the heart of man.

Fyodor Dostoyevski (1821-1881)

The Brothers Karamazov (1880)

Beauty

The beauty seen, is partly in him who sees it.

Bovee

Beauty

The best part of beauty is that which no picture can express.

Bacon

Beauty

The common foible of women who have been handsome is to forget that they are no longer so.

Rochefoucauld

Beauty

The criterion of true beauty is, that it increases on examination; if false, that it lessens.—There is therefore, something in true beauty that corresponds with right reason, and is not the mere creation of fancy.

Greville

Beauty

The most natural beauty in the world is honesty and moral truth.—For all beauty is truth.—True features make the beauty of the face; true proportions, the beauty of architecture; true measures, the beauty of harmony and music.

Shaftesbury

Beauty

The perception of beauty is a moral test.

Henry David Thoreau

Beauty

The soul, by an instinct stronger than reason, ever associates beauty with truth.

Tuckerman

Beauty

Then of thy beauty do I question make,

That thou among the wastes of time must go.

William Shakespeare

Beauty

There are no better cosmetics than a severe temperance and purity, modesty and humility, a gracious temper and calmness of spirit; and there is no true beauty without the signatures of these graces in the very countenance.

John Ray

Beauty

There should be as little merit in loving a woman for her beauty, as a man for his prosperity, both being equally subject to change.

Pope

Beauty

Those set our hairs, but these our flesh upright.

John Donne

Elegy XIX, To His Mistress Going to Bed, 24

Beauty

Though we travel the world over to find the beautiful, we must carry it with us or we find it not.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Beauty

To cultivate the sense of the beautiful, is one of the most effectual ways of cultivating an apreciation of the divine goodness.

Bovee

Beauty

To give pain is the tyranny; to make happy, the true empire of beauty.

Steele

Beauty

We who have seen Italia in the throes,

Half risen but to be hurled to ground, and now,

Like a ripe field of wheat where once drove plough,

All bounteous as she is fair, we think of those

Who blew the breath of life into her frame:

Cavour, Mazzini, Garibaldi: Three:

Her Brain, her Soul, her Sword; and set her free

From ruinous discords, with one lustrous aim.

George Meredith, "For the Centenary of Garibaldi," stanza 1, The Times (London), July 1, 1907, p. 9. This poem is also in Poems of George Meredith, ed. Phyllis B. Bartlett, p. 790 (1978).

Beauty

What tender force, what dignity divine, what virtue consecrating every feature; around that neck what dross are gold and pearl!

Young

Beauty

Whatever is in any way beautiful hath its source of beauty in itself, and is complete in itself; praise forms no part of it. So it is none the worse nor the better for being praised.

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

Meditations, IV, 20

Beauty

When the candles are out all women are fair.

Plutarch

Beauty

When the people of the world all know beauty as beauty,

There arises the recognition of ugliness.

When they all know the good as good,

There arises the recognition of evil.

Lao Tzu

The Way of Lao Tzu 2

Beauty

Who can explain the secret pathos of Nature's loveliness? It is a touch of melancholy inherited from our mother Eve. It is an unconscious memory of the lost Paradise. It is the sense that even if we should find another Eden, we would not be fit to enjoy it perfectly nor stay in it forever.

Henry Van Dyke

Beauty

Who says that fictions only and false hair

Become a verse? Is there in truth no beauty?

George Herbert

The Temple. Jordan, 1

Beauty

[On vanity:] The nose of Cleopatra: if it had been shorter, the face of the earth would have changed.

Blaise Pascal, Pascal's Pensées, trans. Martin Turnell, part 1, section 6, p. 133 (1962).

Sleep

In bed we laugh; in bed we cry; in bed are born; in bed we die; the near approach the bed doth show, of human bliss to human woe.

Benserade

Sleep

Night is the time for rest; how sweet when labors close, to gather round an aching heart the curtain of repose; stretch the tired limbs, and lay the weary head down on our own delightful bed.

J. Montgomery

Sleep

The bed is a bundle of paradoxes: we go to it with reluctance, yet we quit it with regret; we make up our minds every night to leave it early, but we make up our bodies every morning to keep it late.

Colton

Sleep

What a delightful thing rest is!—The bed has become a place of luxury to me.—I would not exchange it for all the thrones in the world.

Napoleon

Beginnings

Let us watch well our beginnings, and results will manage themselves.

Alex Clark

Beginnings

Meet the first beginnings; look to the budding mischief before it has time to ripen to maturity.

Shakespeare

Behavior

A consciousness of inward knowledge gives confidence to the outward behavior, which, of all things, is the best to grace a man in his carriage.

Feltham

Behavior

Be commonplace and creeping, and you will be a success.

Pierre de Beaumarchais

Barber of Seville.

Behavior

Be not careless in deeds, nor confused in words, nor rambling in thought.

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

Meditations, VIII, 51

Behavior

Be pleasant until ten o'clock in the morning and the rest of the day will take care of itself.

Elbert Hubbard

Behavior

Behavior is a mirror in which every one displays his image.

Goethe

Behavior

God has implanted a natural tendency to the monarchial form of government not only in the hearts of men but in practically all things.

St. Robert Bellarmine

De Romano Pontifice.

Behavior

Levity of behavior is the bane of all that is good and virtuous.

Seneca

Behavior

No man, for any considerable period, can wear one face to himself, and another to the multitude, without finally getting bewildered as to which may be the true.

Nathaniel Hawthorne

Behavior

Remember that you ought to behave in life as you would at a banquet. As something is being passed around it comes to you; stretch out your hand, take a portion of it politely. It passes on; do not detain it. Or it has not come to you yet; do not project your desire to meet it, but wait until it comes in front of you. So act toward children, so toward a wife, so toward office, so toward wealth.

Epictetus

The Encheiridion, 15

Behavior

The behavior of women in our culture has largely been in response to the behavior of males toward them. Men have placed a high premium upon sexual attractiveness;…and women, therefore, concentrate on making themselves sexually attractive.

Ashley Montagu

Behavior

The liberty of man consists solely in this, that he obeys the laws of nature, because he has himself recognized them as such, and not because they have been imposed upon him externally by any foreign will whatsoever, human or divine, collective or individual.

Mikhail A. Bakunin

Dieu et l'Etat, posthumously published, 1882.

Behavior

The sum of behaviour is to retain a man's own dignity, without intruding upon the liberty of others.

Francis Bacon

Advancement of Learning.

Behavior

Walk groundly, talk profoundly, drink roundly, sleep soundly.

William Hazlitt

Behavior

We cannot always oblige, but we can always speak obligingly.

Voltaire

Behavior

When you are at Rome live in the Roman style; when you are elsewhere live as they live elsewhere.

St. Ambrose

Advice to St. Augustine. From Jeremy Taylor, Ductor Dubitantium, I, 1, 5

Belief/Beliefs

A belief is not true because it is useful.

Henri Frederic Amiel

Belief/Beliefs

A man lives by believing something, not by debating and arguing about many things.

Thomas Carlyle

Belief/Beliefs

A man may be a heretic in the truth; and if he believes things, only on the authority of others without other reason, then, though his belief be true, yet the very truth he holds becomes heresy.

Milton

Belief/Beliefs

A man who is always ready to believe what is told him will never do well.

Gaius Petronius [Petronius Arbiter]

Satyricon, 43

Belief/Beliefs

A miracle: an event described by those to whom it was told by men who did not see it.

Elbert Hubbard

Belief/Beliefs

Belief is a wise wager. Granted that faith cannot be proved, what harm will come to you if you gamble on its truth and it proves false?….If you gain, you gain all; if you lose, you lose nothing. Wager, then, without hesitation, that He exists.

Blaise Pascal

Belief/Beliefs

Belief is desecrated when given to unproved and unquestioned statements for the solace and private pleasure of the believer….It is wrong always, everywhere, and for every one, to believe anything upon insufficient evidence.

William James

Belief/Beliefs

Believe one who has proved it. Believe an expert.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aeneid, XI, 283

Belief/Beliefs

Believing as I do that man in the distant future will be a far more perfect creature than he now is, it is an intolerable thought that he and all other sentient beings are doomed to complete annihilation after such long-continued slow progress. To those who fully admit the immortality of the human soul, the destruction of our world will not appear so dreadful.

Charles (Robert) Darwin (1809-1882)

Life and Letters of Charles Darwin (1887)

Belief/Beliefs

Can the believing husband in Heaven be happy with his unbelieving wife in Hell? Can the believing father in Heaven be happy with his unbelieving children in Hell? Can the loving wife in Heaven be happy with her unbelieving husband in Hell?

I tell you, yea! Such will be their sense of justice that it will increase rather than diminish their bliss.

Jonathan Edwards (1703-1758)

Discourses on Various Important Subjects (1738)

Belief/Beliefs

Convictions are more dangerous enemies of truth than lies.

Friedrich Nietzsche

Belief/Beliefs

Credulity is the man's weakness, but the child's strength.

Charles Lamb

Belief/Beliefs

Every man prefers belief to the exercise of judgment.

Seneca

Belief/Beliefs

For I do not seek to understand that I may believe, but I believe in order to understand. For this I believe—that unless I believe, I should not understand.

St. Anselm

Proslogium, 1.

Belief/Beliefs

Give to us clear vision that we may know where to stand and what to stand for—because unless we stand for something, we shall fall for anything.

Peter Marshall, Senate chaplain, prayer offered at the opening of the session, April 18, 1947.—Prayers Offered by the Chaplain, the Rev. Peter Marshall . . 1947-1948, p. 20 (1949). Senate Doc. 80-170.

Belief/Beliefs

He that will believe only what he can fully comprehend, must have a very long head or a very short creed.

Colton

Belief/Beliefs

He who expects men to be always as good as their beliefs, indulges a groundless hope; and he who expects men to be always as bad as their beliefs, vexes himself with a needless fear.

J. S. Kieffer

Belief/Beliefs

I am not afraid of those tender and scrupulous consciences who are ever cautious of professing and believing too much; if they are sincerely wrong, I forgive their errors and respect their integrity.—The men I am afraid of are those who believe everything, subscribe to everything, and vote for everything.

Shipley

Belief/Beliefs

I have ever believed, and do now know, that there are Witches.

Thomas Browne

Religio Medici, 1642, pt. i.

Belief/Beliefs

I have too great a soul to die like a criminal.

John Wilkes Booth

Belief/Beliefs

If the thing believed is incredible, it is also incredible that the incredible should have been so believed.

St. Augustine

The City of God.

Belief/Beliefs

If we let ourselves believe that man began with divine grace, that he forfeited this by sin, and that he can be redeemed only by divine grace through the crucified Christ then we shall find a peace of mind never granted to philosophers. He who cannot believe is cursed, for he reveals by his unbelief that God has not chosen to give him grace.

Blaise Pascal

Belief/Beliefs

If you were to destroy in mankind the belief in immorality, not only love but every living force maintaining the life of the world would at once be dried up. Moreover, nothing then would be immoral, everything would be permissible, even cannibalism.

Fyodor Dostoyevski (1821-1881)

The Brothers Karamazov (1880)

Belief/Beliefs

In belief lies the secret of all valuable exertion.

Bulwer

Belief/Beliefs

It is a singular fact that many men of action incline to the theory of fatalism, while the greater part of men of thought believe in a divine providence.

Balzac

Belief/Beliefs

It is to be believed because it is absurd.

Quintus Septimius Tertullian

De Carne Christi, 5

Belief/Beliefs

Men willingly believe what they wish.

Gaius Julius Caesar

De Bello Gallico.

Belief/Beliefs

Modern man…has not ceased to be credulous…the need to believe haunts him.

William James

Belief/Beliefs

No iron chain, or outward force of any kind, could ever compel the soul of man to believe or to disbelieve.

Thomas Carlyle

Heroes and Hero-Worship.

Belief/Beliefs

Nothing is easier than self-deceit. For what each man wishes, that he also believes to be true.

Demosthenes

Third Olynthiac, 19

Belief/Beliefs

Nothing is so easy as to deceive one's self; for what we wish, that we readily believe.

Demosthenes

Belief/Beliefs

Nothing is so firmly believed as that which is least known.

Michel de Montaigne

Belief/Beliefs

Orthodoxy is my doxy; heterodoxy is another man's doxy.

William Warburton

Belief/Beliefs

Personal interest is often the standard of our belief, as well as of our practice.

Edward Gibbon (1737-1794)

The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire (1776-1788)

Belief/Beliefs

Remember that what you believe will depend very much upon what you are.

Noah Porter

Belief/Beliefs

Some believe all that parents, tutors, and kindred believe.—They take their principles by inheritance, and defend them as they would their estates, because they are born heirs to them.

Watts

Belief/Beliefs

Sometimes I've believed as many as six impossible things before breakfast.

Lewis Carroll

Belief/Beliefs

The belief in God is nothing but the belief in human dignity, the belief in the absolute reality and significance of the human nature.

Ludwig Feuerbach (1804-1872)

The Essence of Christianity (1841)

Belief/Beliefs

The fact is, there were all kinds of Puritans. There were dismal precisians, like William Prynne, illiberal and vulgar fanatics, the Tribulation Wholesomes, Hope-on-high Bombys, and Zeal-of-the-land Busys, whose absurdities were the stock in trade of contemporary satirists from Johnson to Butler. But there were also gentlemen and scholars, like Fairfax, Marvell, Colonel Hutchinson, Vane, whose Puritanism was consistent with all elegant tastes and accomplishments. Was Milton's Puritanism hurtful to his art? No and yes. It was in many ways an inspiration; it gave him zeal, a Puritan word much ridiculed by the Royalists; it gave refinement, distinction, selectness, elevation to his picture of the world. But it would be uncritical to deny that it also gave a certain narrowness and rigidity to his view of human life.

Henry A. Beers, "Milton's Tercentenary," The Connecticut Wits and Other Essays, p. 230 (1920).

Belief/Beliefs

The practical effect of a belief is the real test of its soundness.

Froude

Belief/Beliefs

There are many great truths which we do not deny, and which nevertheless we do not fully believe.

J. W. Alexander

Belief/Beliefs

We are inclined to believe those we do not know, because they have never deceived us.

Samuel Johnson

Belief/Beliefs

We are slow to believe that which if believed would hurt our feelings.

Ovid

Belief/Beliefs

What counts now is not just what we are against, but what we are for. Who leads us is less important than what leads us—what convictions, what courage, what faith—win or lose. A man doesn't save a century, or a civilization, but a militant party wedded to a principle can.

Adlai E. Stevenson, governor of Illinois, welcoming address before the Democratic national convention, Chicago, Illinois, July 21, 1952.—Speeches of Adlai Stevenson, p. 17 (1952).

Belief/Beliefs

Belief consists in accepting the affirmations of the soul; Unbelief in denying them.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Belief/Beliefs

One person with a belief is equal to a force of ninety-nine who have only interests.

John Stuart Mill

Beneficence

Be charitable before wealth makes thee covetous.

Sir T. Browne

Beneficence

Beneficence is a duty; and he who frequently practises it, and sees his benevolent intentions realized comes, at length, really to love him to whom he has done good.

Kant

Beneficence

Christian beneficence takes a large sweep; that circumference cannot be small of which God is the centre.

Hannah More

Beneficence

Doing good is the only certainly happy action of a man's life.

Sir P. Sidney

Beneficence

For his bounty there was no winter to it; an autumn it was that grew more by reaping.

Shakespeare

Beneficence

God has so constituted our nature that we cannot be happy unless we are, or think we are, the means of good to others.—We can scarcely conceive of greater wretchedness than must be felt by him who knows he is wholly useless in the world.

Erskine Mason

Beneficence

He that does good to another, does good also to himself, not only in the consequences, but in the very act; for the consciousness of well doing is, in itself, ample reward.

Seneca

Beneficence

I never knew a child of God being bankrupted by his benevolence. What we keep we may lose, but what we give to Christ we are sure to keep.

T. L. Cuyler

Beneficence

It is another's fault if he be ungrateful; but it is mine if I do not give.—To find one thankful man, I will oblige a great many that are not so.—I had rather never receive a kindness than never bestow one.—Not to return a benefit is a great sin; but not to confer one is a greater.

Seneca

Beneficence

Money spent on ourselves may be a millstone about the neck; spent on others it may give us wings like eagles.

R. D. Hitchcock

Beneficence

Of all the virtues necessary to the completion of the perfect man, there is none to be more delicately implied and less ostentatiously vaunted than that of exquisite feeling or universal benevolence.

Bulwer

Beneficence

Rich people should consider that they are only trustees for what they possess, and should show their wealth to be more in doing good than merely in having it.—They should not reserve their benevolence for purposes after they are dead, for those who give not of their property till they die show that they would not then if they could keep it any longer.

Joseph Hall

Beneficence

The luxury of doing good surpasses every other personal enjoyment.

Gay

Beneficence

There is no use of money equal to that of beneficence; here the enjoyment grows on reflection; and our money is most truly ours when it ceases to be in our possession.

Mackenzie

Beneficence

Time is short;—your obligations are infinite.—Are your houses regulated, your children instructed, the afflicted relieved, the poor visited, the work of piety accomplished?

Massillon

Beneficence

Time, which gnaws and diminishes all things else, augments and increaseth benefits; because a noble action of liberality doth grow continually by our generously thinking of it and remembering it.

Rabelais

Beneficence

To feel much for others, and little for ourselves; to restrain our selfish, and exercise our benevolent affections, constitutes the perfection of human nature.

Adam Smith

Beneficence

We enjoy thoroughly only the pleasure that we give.

Dumas

Beneficence

We should give as we would receive cheerfully, quickly, and without hesitation; for there is no grace in a benefit that sticks to the fingers.

Seneca

Beneficence

You are so to give, and to sacrifice to give, as to earn the eulogium pronounced on the woman, "She hath done what she could."—Do it now.—It is not safe to leave a generous feeling to the cooling influences of a cold world.

Guthrie

Benevolence

Benevolence is allied to few vices; selfishness to few virtues.

Homer

Benevolence

Benevolent feeling ennobles the most trifling actions.

Thackeray

Benevolence

Do not wait for extraordinary circumstances to do good actions: try to use ordinary situations.

Richter

Benevolence

Genuine benevolence is not stationary, but peripatetic; it goes about doing good.

W. Nevins

Benevolence

He only does not live in vain, who employs his wealth, his thought, his speech to advance the good of others.

Hindoo Maxim

Benevolence

He who will not give some portion of his ease, his blood, his wealth, for others' good, is a poor frozen churl.

Joanna Baillie

Benevolence

I truly enjoy no more of the world's good things than what I willingly distribute to the needy.

Seneca

Benevolence

It is good for us to think that no grace or blessing is truly ours till we are aware that God has blessed some one else with it through us.

Phillips Brooks

Benevolence

It is good to think well; it is divine to act well.

Horace Mann

Benevolence

It is no great part of a good man's lot to enjoy himself.—To be good and to do good are his ends, and the glory is to be revealed hereafter.

S. I. Prime

Benevolence

It is the glory of the true religion that it inculcates and inspires a spirt of benevolence.—It is a religion of charity, which none other ever was.—Christ went about doing good; he set the example to his disciples, and they abounded in it.

Fuller

Benevolence

Never did any soul do good, but it came readier to do the same again, with more enjoyment. Never was love, or gratitude, or bounty practised, but with increasing joy, which made the practiser still more in love with the fair act.

Shaftesbury

Benevolence

Rare benevolence! the minister of God.

Carlyle

Benevolence

The best way to do good to ourselves, is to do it to others; the right way to gather, is to scatter.

Seneca

Benevolence

The conqueror is regarded with awe; the wise man commands our respect; but it is only the benevolent man that wins our affection.

Howells

Benevolence

The disposition to give a cup of cold water to a disciple, is a far nobler property than the finest intellect.

Howells

Benevolence

The one who will be found in trial capable of great acts of love is ever the one who is always doing considerate small ones.

F. W. Robertson

Benevolence

There cannot be a more glorious object in creation than a human being replete with benevolence, meditating in what manner he may render himself most acceptable to the Creator by doing good to his creatures.

Fielding

Benevolence

They who scatter with one hand, gather with two, not always in coin, but in kind. Nothing multiplies so much as kindness.

Wray

Benevolence

This is the law of benefits between men; the one ought to forget at once what he has given, and the other ought never to forget what he has received.

Seneca

Benevolence

When Fenelon's library was on fire, "God be praised," he said, "that it is not the dwelling of some poor man."

Howells

Best

He has called on the best that was in us. There was no such thing as half-trying. Whether it was running a race or catching a football, competing in school—we were to try. And we were to try harder than anyone else. We might not be the best, and none of us were, but we were to make the effort to be the best. "After you have done the best you can," he used to say, "the hell with it."

Senator Robert F. Kennedy, tribute to his father, Joseph P Kennedy Read at Joseph Kennedy's funeral by Senator Edward M. Kennedy November 20, 1969.—Congressional Record, November 25, 1969, vol. 115, p. 35877.

Best

His resolve is not to seem, but to be, the best.

Aeschylus

The Seven Against Thebes, 592

Best

I do the very best I know how—the very best I can; and I mean to keep doing so until the end. If the end brings me out all right, what is said against me won't amount to anything. If the end brings me out wrong, ten angels swearing I was right would make no difference.

President Abraham Lincoln.—Francis Carpenter, Six Months at the White House, pp. 258-59 (1867).President Richard M. Nixon used similar words about his plan for peace in an address to the nation on the war in Vietnam, November 3, 1969: "If it does succeed, what the critics say now won't matter. If it does not succeed, anything I say then won't matter."—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Richard Nixon, 1969, p. 909.

Best

In this best of all possible worlds, My Lord the Baron's castle was the finest of castles, and My Lady the best of all possible Baronesses. "It is demonstrated' he [Pangloss] said, "that things cannot be otherwise, for, everything being made for an end, everything is necessarily for the best end."

(Dans ce meilleur des mondes possibles, le château de monseigneur le baron était le plus beau des châteaux, et madame Ia meilleure des baronnes possibles. "Il est démontré, disaitil, que les choses ne peuvent être autrement: car tout étant fait pour une fin, tout est nécessairement pour la meilleure fin.")

Voltaire (François Marie Arouet), Candide, chapter 1.—Voltaire's Candide, Zadig, and Selected Stories, trans. Donald M. Frame, p. 4 (1961).With judicious omissions and elisions, and by reversing phrases, the above can be made into the often-quoted, "Everything is for the best in this best of all possible worlds," an aphorism popularized in the 1960s by the musical, Candide, words by Lillian Hellman and music by Leonard Bernstein.

Best

That what is true of business and politics is gloriously true of the professions, the arts and crafts, the sciences, the sports. That the best picture has not yet been painted; the greatest poem is still unsung; the mightiest novel remains to be written; the divinest music has not been conceived even by Bach. In science, probably ninety-nine percent of the knowable has to be discovered. We know only a few streaks about astronomy. We are only beginning to imagine the force and composition of the atom. Physics has not yet found any indivisible matter, or psychology a sensible soul.

Lincoln Steffens, "This World Depression of Ours is Chock-full of Good News," Hearst's International Combined with Cosmopolitan, October 1932, p. 26. This is reprinted in his The World of Lincoln Steffens, ed. Ella Winter and Herbert Shapiro, p. 216 (1962).

Best

Things are always at their best in their beginning.

Blaise Pascal

Lettres Provinciales, 4

Betrayal

On this tenth day of June, 1940, the hand that held the dagger has struck it into the back of its neighbor.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt, commencement address at the University of Virginia, Charlottesville, June 10, 1940.—The Public Papers and Addresses of Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1940, p. 263 (1941).On June 10 Italy declared war against France.

Bible

A loving trust in the Author of the Bible is the best preparation for a wise and profitable study of the Bible itself.

H. C. Trumbull

Bible

A man may read the figures on the dial, but he cannot tell how the day goes unless the sun is shining on it; so we may read the Bible over, but we cannot learn to purpose till the spirit of God shine upon it and into our hearts.

T. Watson

Bible

A noble book! All men's book! It is our first, oldest statement of the never-ending problem—man's destiny, and God's ways with him here on earth; and all in such free-flowing outlines,—grand in its sincerity; in its simplicity and its epic melody.

Carlyle

Bible

After all, the Bible must be its own argument and defence. The power of it can never be proved unless it is felt. The authority of it can never be supported unless it is manifest. The light of it can never be demonstrated unless it shines.

H. J. Van Dyke

Bible

After reading the doctrines of Plato, Socrates, or Aristotle, we feel that the specific difference between their words and Christ's is the difference between an inquiry and a revelation.

Joseph Parker

Bible

All human discoveries seem to be made only for the purpose of confirming more and more strongly the truths that come from on high and are contained in the sacred writings.

Herschel

Bible

All that I am I owe to Jesus Christ, revealed to me in His divine Book.

David Livingstone

Bible

All the distinctive features and superiority of our republican institutions are derived from the teachings of Scripture.

Everett

Bible

Bad men or devils would not have written the Bible, for it condemns them and their works,—good men or angels could not have written it, for in saying it was from God when it was but their own invention, they would have been guilty of falsehood, and this could not have been good. The only remaining being who could have written it, is God—its real author.

Flavel

Bible

Cities fall, empires come to nothing, kingdoms fade away as smoke. Where is Numa, Minos, Lycurgus? Where are their books? and what has become of their laws? But that this book no tyrant should have been able to consume, no tradition to choke, no heretic maliciously to corrupt; that it should stand unto this day, amid the wreck of all that was human, without the alteration of one sentence so as to change the doctrine taught therein,—surely there is a very singular providence, claiming our attention in a most remarkable manner .

John Jewell

Bible

Coming to the Bible through commentaries is much like looking at a landscape through garret windows, over which generations of unmolested spiders have spun their webs.

Henry Ward Beecher

Bible

Do you know a book that you are willing to put under your head for a pillow when you lie dying? That is the book you want to study while you are living. There is but one such book in the world.

Joseph Cook

Bible

Give to the people who toil and suffer, for whom this world is hard and bad, the belief that there is a better made for them. Scatter Gospels among the villages, a Bible for every cottage.

Victor Hugo

Bible

Hold fast to the Bible as the sheet-anchor of your liberties; write its precepts in your hearts, and practice them in your lives. To the influence of this book we are indebted for all the progress made in true civilization, and to this we must look as our guide in the future. "Righteousness exalteth a nation; but sin is a reproach to any people."

U. S. Grant

Bible

Holy Scripture is a stream of running water, where alike the elephant may swim, and the lamb walk without losing its feet.

Gregory The Great

Bible

I believe a knowledge of the Bible without a college course is more valuable than a college course without a Bible.

William Lyon Phelps

Bible

I believe that the Bible is to be understood and received in the plain and obvious meaning of its passages; for I cannot persuade myself that a book intended for the instruction and conversion of the whole world should cover its true meaning in any such mystery and doubt that none but critics and philosophers can discover it.

Daniel Webster

Bible

I have always believed in the inspiration of the Holy Scriptures, whereby they have become the expression to man of the Word and Will of God.

Warren G. Harding

Bible

I have always said, I always will say, that the studious perusal of the sacred volume will make better citizens, better fathers, and better husbands.

Thomas Jefferson

Bible

I have read the Bible through many times, and now make it a practice to read it through once every year.—It is a book of all others for lawyers, as well as divines; and I pity the man who cannot find in it a rich supply of thought and of rules for conduct.

Daniel Webster

Bible

I know the Bible is inspired because it finds me at greater depths of my being than any other book.

Coleridge

Bible

I speak as a man of the world to men of the world; and I say to you, Search the Scriptures! The Bible is the book of all others, to be read at all ages, and in all conditions of human life; not to be read once or twice or thrice through, and then laid aside, but to be read in small portions of one or two chapters every day, and never to be intermitted, unless by some overruling necessity.

J. Q. Adams

Bible

If there is any one fact or doctrine, or command, or promise in the Bible which has produced no practical effect on your temper, or heart, or conduct, be assured you do not truly believe it.

Payson

Bible

In my investigation of natural science, I have always found that, whenever I can meet with anything in the Bible on my subjects, it always affords me a firm platform on which to stand.

Matthew F. Maury

Bible

In this little book (the New Testament), is contained all the wisdom of the world.

Ewald

Bible

In what light soever we regard the Bible, whether with reference to revelation, to history, or to morality, it is an invaluable and inexhaustible mine of knowledge and virtue.

J. Q. Adams

Bible

It has been truly said that any translation of the masterpiece (the Bible) must be a failure.

E. J. Goodspeed

Bible

It is a belief in the Bible, the fruit of deep meditation, which has served me as the guide of my moral and literary life.—I have found it a capital safely invested, and richly productive of interest.

Goethe

Bible

It is impossible to mentally or socially enslave a Bible-reading people. The principles of the Bible are the ground-work of human freedom.

Horace Greeley

Bible

Just as all things upon earth represent and image forth all the realities of another world, so the Bible is one mighty representative of the whole spiritual life of humanity.

Helen Keller

Bible

Men cannot be well educated without the Bible.

E. Nott

Bible

No lawyer can afford to be ignorant of the Bible.

Rufus Choate

Bible

No man ever did or ever will become truly eloquent without being a constant reader of the Bible, and an admirer of the purity and sublimity of its language.

Fisher Ames

Bible

One monarch to obey, one creed to own; that monarch God; that creed his word alone.

Author Unknown

Bible

Our spiritual peril is the new idolatry—the worship of the God of Bigness and the God of Speed.

McIlyar H. Lichliter

Bible

Peruse the works of our philosophers; with all their pomp of diction, how mean, how contemptible, are they, compared with the Scriptures! Is it possible that a book at once so simple and sublime should be merely the work of man? The Jewish authors were incapable of the diction, and strangers to the morality contained in the Gospel, the marks of whose truths are so striking and inimitable that the inventor would be a more astonishing character than the hero.

Rousseau

Bible

Scholars may quote Plato in their studies, but the hearts of millions will quote the Bible at their daily toil, and draw strength from its inspiration, as the meadows draw it from the brook.

Conway

Bible

Sink the Bible to the bottom of the ocean, and still man's obligations to God would be unchanged.—He would have the same path to tread, only his lamp and his guide would be gone;—the same voyage to make, but his chart and compass would be overboard.

H. W. Beecher

Bible

So far as I have observed God's dealings with my soul, the flights of preachers sometimes entertained me, but it was Scripture expressions which did penetrate my heart, and in a way peculiar to themselves.

John Brown

Bible

So great is my veneration for the Bible, that the earlier my children begin to read it the more confident will be my hopes that they will prove useful citizens to their country and respectable members of society.

J. Q. Adams

Bible

That the truths of the Bible have the power of awakening an intense moral feeling in every human being; that they make bad men good, and send a pulse of healthful feeling through all the domestic, civil, and social relations; that they teach men to love right, and hate wrong, and seek each other's welfare as children of a common parent; that they control the baleful passions of the heart, and thus make men proficient in self-government; and finally that they teach man to aspire after conformity to a being of infinite holiness, and fill him with hopes more purifying, exalted, and suited to his nature than any other book the world has ever known—these are facts as incontrovertible as the laws of philosophy, or the demonstrations of mathematics.

F. Wayland

Bible

The Bible contains more true sublimity, more exquisite beauty, 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.

Sir Wm. Jones

Bible

The Bible furnishes the only fitting vehicle to express the thoughts that overwhelm us when contemplating the stellar universe.

O. M. Mitchell

Bible

The Bible goes equally to the cottage of the peasant, and the palace of the king.—It is woven into literature, and colors the talk of the street.—The bark of the merchant cannot sail without it; and no ship of war goes to the conflict but it is there.—It enters men's closets; directs their conduct, and mingles in all the grief and cheerfulness of life.

Theodore Parker

Bible

The Bible is a window in this prison-world, through which we may look into eternity.

Timothy Dwight

Bible

The Bible is one of the greatest blessings bestowed by God on the children of men.—It has God for its author; salvation for its end, and truth without any mixture for its matter.—It is all pure, all sincere; nothing too much; nothing wanting.

Locke

Bible

The Bible is the light of my understanding, the joy of my heart, the fullness of my hope, the clarifier of my affections, the mirror of my thoughts, the consoler of my sorrows, the guide of my soul through this gloomy labyrinth of time, the telescope went from heaven to reveal to the eye of man the amazing glories of the far distant world.

Sir Wm. Jones

Bible

The Bible is the only cement of nations, and the only cement that can bind religious hearts together.

Bunsen

Bible

The Bible is to us what the star was to the wise men; but if we spend all our time in gazing upon it, observing its motions, and admiring its splendor, without being led to Christ by it, the use of it will be lost on us.

Thomas Adams

Bible

The Bible remained for me a book of books, still divine—but divine in the sense that all great books are divine which teach men how to live righteously.

Sir Arthur Keith

Bible

The Bible rose to the place it now occupies because it deserved to rise to that place, and not because God sent anybody with a box of tricks to prove its divine authority.

Bruce Barton

Bible

The Bible, thoroughly known, is literature in itself—the rarest and richest in all departments of thought and imagination which exists.

James Anthony Froude

Bible

The Biblical record is far more concerned with events than it is with ideas. Ideas there are, but they are subordinated to events. The conviction, usually unstated, is that God revels Himself much more fully in history than in nature or in any other way…. The men who wrote the words of the Bible were contented, for the most part, with telling a story.

Elton Trueblood

Bible

The general diffusion of the Bible is the most effectual way to civilize and humanize mankind; to purify and exalt the general system of public morals; to give efficacy to the just precepts of international and municipal law; to enforce the observance of prudence, temperance, justice and fortitude; and to improve all the relations of social and domestic life.

Chancellor Kent

Bible

The Gospel is not merely a book—it is a living power—a book surpassing all others.—I never omit to read it, and every day with the same pleasure. Nowhere is to be found such a series of beautiful ideas, and admirable moral maxims, which pass before us like the battalions of a celestial army….The soul can never go astray with this book for its guide.

Napoleon on St. Helena

Bible

The grand old Book of God still stands, and this old earth, the more its leaves are turned over and pondered, the more it will sustain and illustrate the sacred Word.

James Dwight Dana

Bible

The highest earthly enjoyments are but a shadow of the joy I find in reading God's word.

Lady Jane Grey

Bible

The Holy Bible is not only great but highly explosive literature. It works in strange ways and no living man can tell or know how that book in its journeyings through the world has started an individual soul 10,000 different places into a new life, a new belief, a new conception and a new faith.

Stanley Baldwin

Bible

The incongruity of the Bible with the age of its birth; its freedom from earthly mixtures; its original, unborrowed, solitary greatness; the suddenness with which it broke forth amidst the general gloom; these, to me, are strong indications of its Divine descent; I cannot reconcile them with a human origin.

Channing

Bible

The inspiration of the Bible depends upon the ignorance of the gentleman who reads it.

Robert G. Ingersoll

Bible

The longer you read the Bible, the more you will like it; it will grow sweeter and sweeter; and the more you get into the spirit of it, the more you will get into the spirit of Christ.

Romaine

Bible

The man of one book is always formidable; but when that book is the Bible he is irresistible.

W. M. Taylor

Bible

The morality of the Bible is, after all, the safety of society.

F. C. Monfort

Bible

The most learned, acute, and diligent student cannot, in the longest life, obtain an entire knowledge of this one volume. The more deeply he works the mine, the richer and more abundant he finds the ore; new light continually beams from this source of heavenly knowledge, to direct the conduct, and illustrate the work of God and the ways of men; and he will at last leave the world confessing, that the more he studied the Scriptures, the fuller conviction he had of his own ignorance, and of their inestimable value.

Walter Scott

Bible

The philosophers, as Varro tells us, counted up three hundred and twenty answers to the question, "What is the supreme good?" How needful, then, is a divine revelation, to make plain what is the true end of our being.

Tyron Edwards

Bible

The whole hope of human progress is suspended on the ever-growing influence of the Bible.

William H. Seward

Bible

The word of God will stand a thousand readings; and he who has gone over it most frequently is the surest of finding new wonders there.

J. Hamilton

Bible

There are no songs comparable to the songs of Zion; no orations equal to those of the prophets; and no politics like those which the Scriptures teach.

Milton

Bible

There is a Book worth all other books which were ever printed.

Patrick Henry

Bible

There is no book like the Bible for excellent wisdom and use.

Sir Matthew Hale

Bible

There is no book on which we can rest in a dying moment but the Bible.

John Selden

Bible

They who are not induced to believe and live as they ought by those discoveries which God hath made in Scripture, would stand out against any evidence whatever; even that of a messenger sent express from the other world.

Atterbury

Bible

To my early knowledge of the Bible I owe the best part of my taste in literature, and the most precious, and on the whole, the one essential part of my education.

Ruskin

Bible

To say nothing of its holiness or authority, the Bible contains more specimens of genius and taste than any other volume in existence.

Landor

Bible

Voltaire spoke of the Bible as a short-lived book. He said that within a hundred years it would pass from common use. Not many people read Voltaire today, but his house has been packed with Bibles as a depot of a Bible society.

Bruce Barton

Bible

We account the Scriptures of God to be the most sublime philosophy. I find more sure marks of authenticity in the Bible than in any profane history whatever.

Isaac Newton

Bible

When you have read the Bible, you will know it is the word of God, because you will have found it the key to your own heart, your own happiness and your own duty.

Woodrow Wilson

Bible

You never get to the end of Christ's words. There is something in them always behind. They pass into proverbs, into laws, into doctrines, into consolations; but they never pass away, and after all the use that is made of them they are still not exhausted.

A. P. Stanley

Bible

I cannot too greatly emphasize the importance and value of Bible study—more important than ever before in these days of uncertainties, when men and women are apt to decide questions from the standpoint of expediency rather than on the eternal principles laid down by God, Himself.

John Wanamaker

Bigotry

A man must be both stupid an uncharitable who believes there is no virtue or truth but on his own side.

Addison

Bigotry

Bigotry has no head, and cannot think; no heart, and cannot feel. When she moves, it is in wrath; when she pauses it is amidst ruin; her prayers are curses—her God is a demon—her communion is death.

O'Connell

Bigotry

Bigotry murders religion to frighten fools with her ghost.

Colton

Bigotry

The bigot for the most part clings to opinions adopted without investigation, and defended without argument, while he is intolerant of the opinions of others.

Charles Buck

Bigotry

The bigot sees religion, not as a sphere, but a line; and it is the line in which he is moving. He is like an African buffalo—sees right forward, but nothing on the right or the left. He would not perceive a legion of angels or devils at the distance of ten yards, on the one side or the other.

John Foster

Bigotry

The mind of the bigot is like the pupil of the eye; the more light you pour upon it, the more it will contract.

O. W. Holmes

Bigotry

There is no bigotry like that of "free thought" run to seed.

Horace Greeley

Bigotry

There is no tariff so injurious as that with which sectarian bigotry guards its commodities.—It dwarfs the soul by shutting out truths from other continents of thought, and checks the circulation of its own.

E. H. Chapin

Bigotry

When once a man is determined to believe, the very absurdity of the doctrine does but confirm him in his faith.

Junius

Biography

A life that is worth writing at all, is worth writing minutely and truthfully.

Longfellow

Biography

A well-written life is almost as rare as a well-spent one.

Thomas Carlyle

Biography

Biographies of great, but especially of good men, are most instructive and useful as helps, guides, and incentives to others. Some of the best are almost equivalent to gospels—teaching high living, high thinking, and energetic actions for their own and the world's good.

Samuel Smiles

Biography

Biography is the most universally pleasant and profitable of all reading.

Carlyle

Biography

Biography is the personal and home aspect of history.

Wilmott

Biography

Biography, especially of the great and good, who have risen by their own exertions to eminence and usefulness, is an inspiring and ennobling study.—Its direct tendency is to reproduce the excellence it records.

Horace Mann

Biography

Every great man nowadays has his disciples, and it is always Judas who writes the biography.

Oscar Wilde

Biography

Great men have often the shortest biographies.—Their real life is in their books or deeds.

History can be formed from permanent monuments and records; but lives can only be written from personal knowledge, which is growing every day less, and in a short time is lost forever.

Johnson

Biography

Most biographies are of little worth.—They are panegyrics, not lives.—The object is, not to let down the hero; and consequently what is most human, most genuine, most characteristic in his history, is excluded.—No department of literature is so false as biography.

William Ellery Channing

Biography

My advice is, to consult the lives of other men as we would a looking-glass, and from thence fetch examples for our own imitation.

Terence

Biography

Now the Poet cannot die, nor leave his music as of old, but round him ere he scarce be cold begins the scandal and the cry.

Alfred Lord Tennyson

Biography

Of all studies, the most delightful and useful is biography.—The seeds of great events lie near the surface; historians delve too deep for them.—No history was ever true; but lives which I have read, if they were not, had the appearance, the interest, the utility of truth.

Landor

Biography

One anecdote of a man is worth a volume of biography.

William Ellery Channing

Biography

One of the new terrors of death.—John Arbuthnot (referring to catch-penny lives of eminent men issued immediately after the subjects' death by Edmund Curll).

Rich as we are in biography, a well-written life is almost as rare as a well-spent one; and there are certainly many more men whose history deserves to be recorded than persons able and willing to furnish the record.

Carlyle

Biography

The best teachers of humanity are the lives of great men.

Orson Squire Fowler

Biography

The poor dear dead have been laid out in vain; turned into cash, they are laid out again.

Thomas Hood

Biography

The remains of great and good men, like Elijah's mantle, ought to be gathered up and preserved by their survivors; that as their works follow them in the reward of them, they may stay behind in their benefit.

M. Henry

Biography

There is properly no history, only biography.

Emerson

Biography

Those only who live with a man can write his life with any genuine exactness and discrimination, and few people who have lived with a man know what to remark about him.

Johnson

Biography

To be ignorant of the lives of the most celebrated men of antiquity is to continue in a state of childhood all our days.

Plutarch

Birth

The wailing of the newborn infant is mingled with the dirge for the dead.

Lucretius

Birth

A noble birth and fortune, though they make not a bad man good, yet they are a real advantage to a worthy one, and place his virtues in the fairest light.

Lillo

Birth

Custom forms us all; our thoughts, our morals, our most fixed belief, are consequences of the place of our birth.

Hill

Birth

Distinguished birth is indeed an honor to him who lives worthily of the virtue of his progenitors. If, as Seneca says, "Virtue is the only nobility," he is doubly a nobleman who is not only descended from a virtuous ancestry, but is himself virtuous.

Features alone do not run in the blood; vices and virtues, genius and folly, are transmitted through the same sure but unseen channel.

Hazlitt

Birth

High birth is a gift of fortune which should never challenge esteem toward those who receive it, since it costs them neither study nor labor.

Bruyere

Birth

Of all vanities and fopperies, the vanity of high birth is the greatest. True nobility is derived from virtue, not from birth. Titles, indeed, may be purchased; but virtue is the only coin that makes the bargain valid.

Burton

Birth

Our birth is nothing but our death begun, as tapers waste the moment they take fire.

Young

Birth

Those who have nothing else to recommend them to the respect of others but only their blood, cry it up at a great rate, and have their mouths perpetually full of it.—By this mark they commonly distinguish themselves; but you may depend upon it there is no good bottom, nothing of the true worth of their own when they insist so much and set their credit on that of others.

Charron

Birth

What is birth to a man if it be a stain to his dead ancestors to have left such an offspring?

Sir P. Sidney

Blacks

Beware of Greeks bearing gifts, colored men looking for loans and whites who "understand the Negro."

Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., "The Soapbox," The New York Amsterdam News, June 6, 1936, p. 12. Powell wrote a weekly column, "The Soapbox."

Blacks

For your race, in its poverty, has unquestionably one really effective weapon—laughter. Power, money, persuasion, supplication, persecution—these can laugh at a colossal lumbug—push it a little—weaken it a little, century by century; but only laughter can blow it to rags and atoms at a blast.

Mark Twain

Blacks

In my judgment, the slogan "black power" and what has been associated with it has set the civil rights movement back considerably in the United States over the period of the last several months.

Senator Robert F. Kennedy, remark during testimony of Floyd McKissick before a Senate subcommittee of which Kennedy was a member, December 8, 1966.—Federal Role in Urban Affairs, hearings before the Subcommittee on Executive Reorganization of the Committee on Government Operations, United States Senate, 89th Congress, 2d session, part 11, p. 2312 (1967).

Blacks

None of these structures, however, should inhibit any one of us, in his individual capacity, from declaring himself on the issues of the trial and its fairness….So in spite of my insistence on the limits of my official capacity, I personally want to say that I am appalled and ashamed that things should have come to such a pass in this country that I am skeptical of the ability of black revolutionaries to achieve a fair trial anywhere in the United States. In large part this atmosphere has been created by police actions and prosecutions against the Panthers in many parts of the country. It is also one more inheritance from centuries of racial discrimination and oppression…. The first contribution to the fairness of the trial which anyone can make is to cool rather than heat up the atmosphere in which the trial will be held.

Kingman Brewster, president of Yale, statement to a closed meeting of the faculty of Yale College, explaining why the university could not use its funds to help the defendants in the Black Panther murder trial.—The Washington Post, editorial, May 5, 1970, p. A16.

Blacks

Now, Mr. Chairman, before concluding my remarks I want to submit a brief recipe for the solution of the so-called American negro problem. He asks no special favors, but simply demands that he be given the same chance for existence, for earning a livelihood, for raising himself in the scales of manhood and womanhood that are accorded to kindred nationalities. Treat him as a man; go into his home and learn of his social conditions; learn of his cares, his troubles, and his hopes for the future; gain his confidence; open the doors of industry to him; let the word "negro," "colored," and "black" be stricken from all the organizations enumerated in the federation of labor.

Help him to overcome his weaknesses, punish the crime-committing class by the courts of the land, measure the standard of the race by its best material, cease to mold prejudicial and unjust public sentiment against him, and my word for it, he will learn to support, hold up the hands of, and join in with that political party, that institution, whether secular or religious, in every community where he lives, which is destined to do the greatest good for the greatest number. Obliterate race hatred, party prejudice, and help us to achieve nobler ends, greater results, and become more satisfactory citizens to our brother in white.

This, Mr. Chairman, is perhaps the negroes' temporary farewell to the American Congress; but let me say, Phoenix-like he will rise up some day and come again. These parting words are in behalf of an outraged, heart-broken, bruised, and bleeding, but God-fearing people, faithful, industrious, loyal people—rising people, full of potential force.

Mr. Chairman, in the trial of Lord Bacon, when the court disturbed the counsel for the defendant, Sir Walter Raleigh raised himself up to his full height and, addressing the court, said: "Sir, I am pleading for the life of a human being."

The only apology that I have to make for the earnestness with which I have spoken is that I am pleading for the life, the liberty, the future happiness, and manhood suffrage for one-eighth of the entire population of the United States.

Representative George H. White, remarks in the House, January 29, 1901, Congressional Record, vol. 34, p. 1638.

He was the only black in the 55th and 56th Congresses (1897-1901).

Blacks

We are all citizens of one world, we are all of one blood. To hate a man because he was born in another country, because he speaks a different language, or because he takes a different view on this subject or that, is a great folly. Desist, I implore you, for we are all equally human….Let us have but one end in view, the welfare of humanity.

John Comenius

Blessedness/Blessings

Blessedness consists in the accomplishment of our desires, and in our having only regular desires.

Augustine

Blessedness/Blessings

Blessings ever wait on virtuous deeds, and though a late, a sure reward succeeds.

Congreve

Blessedness/Blessings

Health, beauty, vigor, riches, and all the other things called goods, operate equally as evils to the vicious and unjust, as they do as benefits to the just.

Plato

Blessedness/Blessings

How blessings brighten as they take their flight!

Young

Blessedness/Blessings

It is generally true that all that is required to make men unmindful of what they owe to God for any blessing, is, that they should receive that blessing often and regularly.

Whately

Blessedness/Blessings

Let me tell you that every misery I miss is a new blessing.

Izaak Walton

Blessedness/Blessings

Nothing raises the price of a blessing like its removal; whereas, it was its continuance which should have taught us its value.

H. Moore

Blessedness/Blessings

Reflect upon your present blessings, of which every man has many: not on your past misfortunes, of which all men have some.

Dickens

Blessedness/Blessings

The beloved of the Almighty are the rich who have the humility of the poor, and the poor who have the magnanimity of the rich.

Saadi

Blessedness/Blessings

The good things of life are not to be had singly, but come to us with a mixture; like a schoolboy's holiday, with a task affixed to the tail of it.

Charles Lamb

Blessedness/Blessings

There are three requisites to the proper enjoyment of earthly blessings: a thankful reflection, on the goodness of the giver; a deep sense of our own unworthiness; and a recollection of the uncertainty of our long possessing them.—The first will make us grateful; the second, humble; and the third, moderate.

Hannah More

Blessedness/Blessings

True blessedness consisteth in a good life and a happy death.

Solon

Blessedness/Blessings

'Tis sorrow builds the shining ladder up,

Whose golden rounds are our calamities.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Blessedness/Blessings

To those leaning on the sustaining infinite, today is big with blessings.

Mary Baker Eddy

Blush

Whoever blushes seems to be good.

Menander

Blush

A blush is a sign that nature hangs out, to show where chastity and honor dwell.

Gotthold E. Lessing

Blush

Better a blush on the face than a blot on the heart.

Cervantes

Blush

Blushing is the livery of virtue, though it may sometimes proceed from guilt.

Bacon

Blush

It is better for a young man to blush, than to turn pale.

Cicero

Blush

Men blush less for their crimes, than for their weaknesses and vanity.

Bruyere

Blush

Playful blushes, that seem but luminous escapes of thought.

Moore

Blush

The ambiguous livery worn alike by modesty and shame.

Balfour

Blush

The blush is nature's alarm at the approach of sin, and her testimony to the dignity of virtue.

Fuller

Blush

The inconvenience, or the beauty of the blush, which is the greater?

Madame Neckar

Blush

The man that blushes is not quite a brute.

Young

Blush

The troubled blood through his pale face was seen to come and go with tidings from his heart, as it a running messenger had been.

Spenser

Blush

When a girl ceases to blush, she has lost the most powerful charm of her beauty.

Gregory

Blush

Whoever blushes, is already guilty; true innocence is ashamed of nothing.

Rousseau

Boasting

A gentleman that loves to hear himself talk, will speak more in a minute than he will stand to in a month.

Shakespeare

Boasting

Conceit, more rich in matter than in words, brags of his substance: they are but beggars who can count their worth.

Shakespeare

Boasting

Friendship should be a private pleasure, not a public boast. I loathe those braggarts who are forever trying to invest themselves with importance by calling important people by their first names in or out of print…. Such first-naming for effect makes me cringe.

John Mason Brown

Boasting

Lord Bacon told Sir Edward Coke when he was boasting, "The less you speak of your greatness, the more shall I think of it."

Shakespeare

Boasting

Men of real merit, whose noble and glorious deeds we are ready to acknowledge are not yet to be endured when they vaunt their own actions.

Æschines

Boasting

Self-laudation abounds among the unpolished, but nothing can stamp a man more sharply as ill-bred.

Charles Buxton

Boasting

There is this benefit in brag, that the speaker is unconsciously expressing his own ideal.—Humor him by all means; draw it all out, and hold him to it.

Emerson

Boasting

Usually the greatest boasters are the smallest workers. The deep rivers pay a larger tribute to the sea than shallow brooks, and yet empty themselves with less noise.

W. Secker

Boasting

We wound our modesty and make foul the clearness of our deservings, when of ourselves we publish them.

Shakespeare

Boasting

Where boasting ends, there dignity begins.

Young

Boasting

Who knows himself a braggart, let him fear this; for it will come to pass that every braggart shall be found an ass.

Shakespeare

Boasting

With all his tumid boasts, he's like the sword-fish, who only wears his weapon in his mouth.

Madden

Body

Can any honor exceed that which has been conferred on the human body?—Can any powers exceed the powers—any glory exceed the glory with which it is invested?—No wonder the apostle should beseech men to present their bodies a living sacrifice to God.

Pulsford

Body

God made the human body, and it is the most exquisite and wonderful organization which has come to us from the divine hand.—It is a study for one's whole life.—If an undevout astronomer is mad, an undevout physiologist is madder.

H. W. Beecher

Body

If there be anything common to us by nature, it is the members of our corporeal frame; yet the apostle taught that these, guided by the spirit as its instruments, and obeying a holy will, become transfigured, so that, in his language, the body becomes a temple of the Holy Ghost, and the meanest faculties, the lowest appetites, the humblest organs are ennobled by the spirit mind which guides them.

F. W. Robertson

Body

It is shameful for a man to rest in ignorance of the structure of his own body, especially when the knowledge of it mainly conduces to his welfare, and directs his application of his own powers.

Melancthon

Body

Our bodies are but dust, but they can bring praise to him that formed them.—Dull and tuneless in themselves, they can become glorious harps on which the music of piety may be struck to heaven.

Punshon

Body

Our body is a well-set clock, which keeps good time, but if it be too much or indiscreetly tampered with, the alarm runs out before the hour.

Joseph Hall

Boldness

Boldness is ever blind, for it sees not dangers and inconveniences; whence it is bad in council though good in execution.

Bacon

Boldness

Carried away by the irresistible influence which is always exercised over men's minds by a bold resolution in critical circumstances.

Guizot

Boldness

Fortune befriends the bold.

Dryden

Boldness

It is wonderful what strength of purpose and boldness and energy of will are roused by the assurance that we are doing our duty.

Scott

Boldness

We make way for the man who boldly pushes past us.

Bovee

Boldness

Who bravely dares must sometimes risk a fall.

Smollett

Bombs/Bombing

I happened to read recently a remark by the American nuclear physicist W. Davidson, who noted that the explosion of one hydrogen bomb releases a greater amount of energy than all the explosions set off by all countries in all wars known in the entire history of mankind. And he, apparently, is right.

Nikita S. Khrushchev, Address at the United Nations, New York City, September 18, 1959, as reported by The New York Times, September 19, 1959, p. 8. The physicist quoted was eventually found to be William Davidson, associate physicist at Argonne National Laboratory, Lemont, Illinois.

Bombs/Bombing

I'd rather be Red than dead.

Author unknown. Slogan of Britain's Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament supporters.—Time, September 15, 1961, p. 30.

Bombs/Bombing

If the radiance of a thousand suns were to burst forth at once in the sky, that would be like the splendour of the Mighty One.

I am mighty, world-destroying Time

Bhagavad Gita.

Bhagavad Gita, trans. Swami Nikhilananda, chapter 11, sections 12 and 32, pp. 256, 261 (1944).

A variation of this translation flashed through the mind of J. Robert Oppenheimer as he stood in the control room at the explosion of the first atomic bomb at Los Alamos, New Mexico, July 16, 1945: "If the radiance of a thousand suns / were to burst into the sky / that would be like / the splendor of the Mighty One" and "I am become Death, the shatterer of worlds."—Current Biography Yearbook, 1964, p. 331.

Bombs/Bombing

My solution to the problem [of North Vietnam] would be to tell them frankly that they've got to draw in their horns and stop their aggression, or we're going to bomb them back into the Stone Age. And we would shove them back into the Stone Age with Air power or Naval power—not with ground forces.

General Curtis E. Lemay, Mission with LeMay: My Story, p. 565 (1965).In an interview two years after the publication of this book, General LeMay said, "I never said we should bomb them back to the Stone Age. I said we had the capability to do it. I want to save lives on both sides."—The Washington Post, October 4, 1968, p. A8.

Bombs/Bombing

Some recent work by E. Fermi and L. Szilard, which has been communicated to me in manuscript, leads me to expect that the element uranium may be turned into a new and important source of energy in the immediate future. Certain aspects of the situation seem to call for watchfulness and, if necessary, quick action on the part of the Administration. .

This new phenomenon would also lead to the construction of bombs, and it is conceivable—though much less certain—that extremely powerful bombs of a new type may thus be constructed. A single bomb of this type, carried by boat or exploded in a port, might very well destroy the whole port together with some of the surrounding territory. However, such bombs might very well prove to be too heavy for transportation by air.

Albert Einstein, letter to President Franklin D. Roosevelt, August 2, 1939, delivered October 11, 1939.—Einstein on Peace, ed. Otto Nathan and Heinz Norden, pp. 294-95 (1960, reprinted 1981).

Bombs/Bombing

What a curious picture it is to find man, homosapiens, of divine origin, we are told, seriously considering going underground to escape the consequences of his own folly. With a little wisdom and foresight, surely it is not yet necessary to forsake life in the fresh air and in the warmth of the sunlight. What a paradox if our own cleverness in science should force us to live underground with the moles.

Senator J. William Fulbright, "The Effect of the Atomic Bomb on American Foreign Policy," address to the Foreign Policy Association, New York City, October 20, 1945.—Congressional Record, November 2, 1945, vol. 91, Appendix, p. A4654.

Books/Reading

A bad book is the worse that it cannot repent.—It has not been the devil's policy to keep the masses of mankind in ignorance; but finding that they will read, he is doing all in his power to poison their books.

E. N. Kirk

Books/Reading

A book is a garden, an orchard, a storehouse, a party, a company by the way, a counsellor, a multitude of counsellors.

H. W. Beecher

Books/Reading

A book is the only immortality.

Rufus Choate

Books/Reading

A book may be compared to your neighbor: if it be good, it cannot last too long; if bad, you cannot get rid of it too early.

Brooke

Books/Reading

A dose of poison can do its work only once, but a bad book can go on poisoning people's minds for any length of time.

John Murray

Books/Reading

A good book is the best of friends, the same today and forever.

Tupper

Books/Reading

A good book is the precious life-blood of a master-spirit, embalmed and treasured up on purpose for a life beyond.

Milton

Books/Reading

A good book is the very essence of a good man.—His virtues survive in it, while the foibles and faults of his actual life are forgotten.—All the goodly company of the excellent and great sit around my table, or look down on me from yonder shelves, waiting patiently to answer my questions and enrich me with their wisdom.—A precious book is a foretaste of immortality.

T. L. Cuyler

Books/Reading

A good book, in the language of the book-sellers, is a salable one; in that of the curious, a scarce one; in that of men of sense, a useful and instructive one.

Chambers

Books/Reading

A house without books is like a room without windows. No man has a right to bring up his children without surrounding them with books, if he has the means to buy them. It is a wrong to his family. Children learn to read by being in the presence of books. The love of knowledge comes with reading and grows upon it. And the love of knowledge, in a young mind, is almost always

a warrant against the inferior excitement of passions and vices.

Horace Mann

Books/Reading

After all manner of professors have done their best for us, the place we are to get knowledge is in books.—The true university of these days is a collection of books.

Carlyle

Books/Reading

All good books are alike in that they are truer than if they had really happened and after you are finished reading one you will feel that all that happened to you and afterwards it all belongs to you; the good and the bad, the ecstacy, the remorse and sorrow, the people and the places and how the weather was.

Ernest Hemingway, "Old Newsman Writes," Esquire, December 1934, p. 26.

Books/Reading

As well almost kill a man, as kill a good book; for the life of the one is but a few short years, while that of the other may be for ages.—Who kills a man kills a reasonable creature, God's image; but he who destroys a good book, kills reason itself; kills as it were, the image of God.

Milton

Books/Reading

Bad books are like intoxicating drinks; they furnish neither nourishment, nor medicine.—Both improperly excite; the one the mind; the other the body.—The desire for each increases by being fed.—Both ruin; one the intellect; the other the health; and together, the soul.—The safeguard against each is the same—total abstinence from all that intoxicates either mind or body.

Tyron Edwards

Books/Reading

Be as careful of the books you read, as of the company you keep; for your habits and character will be as much influenced by the former as by the latter.

Paxton Hood

Books/Reading

Books (says Bacon) can never teach the use of books; the student must learn by commerce with mankind to reduce his speculations to practice. No man should think so highly of himself as to suppose he can receive but little light from books, nor so meanly as to believe he can discover nothing but what is to be learned from them.

Johnson

Books/Reading

Books are a guide in youth, and an entertainment for age. They support us under solitude, and keep us from becoming a burden to ourselves. They help us to forget the crossness of men and things, compose our cares and our passions, and lay our disappointments asleep. When we are weary of the living, we may repair to the dead, who have nothing of peevishness, pride,

or design in their conversation.

Jeremy Collier

Books/Reading

Books are but waste paper unless we spend in action the wisdom we get from thought.

Bulwer

Books/Reading

Books are embalmed minds.

Bovee

Books/Reading

Books are good enough in their own way, but they are a mighty bloodless substitute for life.

Robert Louis Stevenson, "An Apology for Idlers," Virginibus Puerisque and Later Essays, p. 80 (1969). Written between 1874-1879.

Books/Reading

Books are immortal sons deifying their sires.

Plato

Books/Reading

Books are lighthouses erected in the great sea of time.

E. P. Whipple

Books/Reading

Books are masters who instruct us without rods or ferules, without words or anger, without bread or money. If you approach them, they are not asleep; if you seek them, they do not hide; if you blunder, they do not scold; if you are ignorant, they do not laugh at you.

Richard de Bury

Books/Reading

Books are men of higher stature; the only men that speak aloud for future times to hear.

E. S. Barrett

Books/Reading

Books are not absolutely dead things, but do contain a certain potency of life in them, to be as active as the soul whose progeny they are; they preserve, as in a vial, the purest efficacy and extraction of the living intellect that bred them.

Milton

Books/Reading

Books are standing counselors and preachers, always at hand, and always disinterested; having this advantage over oral instructors, that they are ready to repeat their lesson as often as we please.

Chambers

Books/Reading

Books are the best of things if well used; if abused, among the worst.—They are good for nothing but to inspire.—I had better never see a book than be warped by its attraction clean out of my own orbit, and made a satellite instead of a system.

Emerson

Books/Reading

Books are the legacies of that a great genius leaves to mankind, which are delivered down from generation to generation, as presents to the posterity of those who are yet unborn.

Joseph Addison

Books/Reading

Books are the metemphyschosis; the symbol and presage of immortality.—The dead are scattered, and none shall find them; but behold they are here.

H. W. Beecher

Books/Reading

Books are the quietest and most constant of friends; they are the most accessible and wisest of counselors, and the most patient of teachers.

Charles W. Eliot, "The Happy Life," The Durable Satisfactions of Life, p. 37 (1910, reprinted 1969). Eliot, president of Harvard, 1869-1909, first read this before Phillips Exeter Academy, Exeter, New Hampshire, but it was later rewritten.

Books/Reading

Books are the true levellers; they give to all who faithfully use them, the society, the spiritual presence of the greatest and best of our race.

Channing

Books/Reading

Books are those faithful mirrors that reflect to our mind the minds of sages and heroes.

Gibbon

Books/Reading

Books bear him up a while, and make him try

To swim with bladders of philosophy.

John Wilmot

Books/Reading

Books must be read as deliberately and reservedly as they were written.

Henry David Thoreau

Books/Reading

Books must follow sciences, and not sciences books.

Francis Bacon

Proposition touching amendment of laws

Books/Reading

Books should to one of these four ends conduce: for wisdom, piety, delight, or use.

Denham

Books/Reading

Books that you carry to the fire, and hold readily in your hand, are most useful after all.

Samuel Johnson

Books/Reading

Books to judicious compilers, are useful; to particular arts and professions, they are absolutely necessary; to men of real science, they are tools: but more are tools to them.

Johnson

Books/Reading

Books, like friends, should be few and well chosen. Like friends, too, we should return to them again and again—for, like true friends, they will never fail us—never cease to instruct—never cloy—

Colton

Books/Reading

Books, like proverbs, receive their chief value from the stamp and esteem of the ages through which they have passed.

Sir W. Temple

Books/Reading

Choose an author as you choose a friend.

Roscommon

Books/Reading

Dead counsellors are the most instructive, because they are heard with patience and reverence.

Johnson

Books/Reading

Deep versed in books, but shallow in himself.

Milton

Books/Reading

Every man is a volume if you know how to read him.

Channing

Books/Reading

Except a living man there is nothing more wonderful than a book! a message to us from the dead—from human souls we never saw, who lived, perhaps, thousands of miles away. And yet these, in those little sheets of paper, speak to us, arouse us, terrify us, teach us, comfort us, open their hearts to us as brothers.

Charles Kingsley

Books/Reading

Few are sufficiently sensible of the importance of that economy in reading which selects, almost exclusively, the very first order of books. Why, except for some special reason, read an inferior book, at the very time you might be reading one of the highest order?

John Foster

Books/Reading

God be thanked for books; they are the voices of the distant and the dead, and make us heirs of the spiritual life of past ages.

Channing

Books/Reading

He that loves not books before he comes to thirty years of age, will hardly love them enough afterward to understand them.

Clarendon

Books/Reading

He that studies books alone will know how things ought to be; and he who studies men will know how they are.

Charles Caleb Colton (1780-1832)

The Lacon (1829)

Books/Reading

He [Pliny the Elder] used to say that " no book was so bad but some good might be got out of it."

Pliny the Younger

Letters, III, 5

Books/Reading

I go to books and to nature as the bee goes to a flower, for a nectar that I can make into my own honey.

John Burroughs

Books/Reading

I love to lose myself in other men's minds. When I am not walking, I am reading. I cannot sit and think; books think for me.

Charles Lamb

Books/Reading

I never knew a girl who was ruined by a book.

James J. Walker

Books/Reading

I saw a man clothed with rags…a book in his hand, and a great burden upon his back.

John Bunyan

Pilgrim's Progress. Apology for His Book

Books/Reading

If a book come from the heart it will contrive to reach other hearts.—All art and authorcraft are of small account to that.

Carlyle

Books/Reading

If a secret history of books could be written, and the author's private thoughts and meanings noted down alongside of his story, how many insipid volumes would become interesting, and dull tales excite the reader!

Thackeray

Books/Reading

If all the crowns of Europe were placed at my disposal on condition that I should abandon my books and studies, I should spurn the crowns away and stand by the books.

Fenelon

Books/Reading

If religious books are not widely circulated among the masses in this country, and the people do not become religious, I do not know what is to become of us as a nation. And the thought is one to cause solemn reflection on the part of every patriot and Christian. If truth be not diffused, error will be.

Daniel Webster

Books/Reading

If this nation is to be wise as well as strong, if we are to achieve our destiny, then we need more new ideas for more wise men reading more good books in more public libraries. These libraries should be open to all—except the censor. We must know all the facts and hear all the alternatives and listen to all the criticisms. Let us welcome controversial books and controversial authors. For the Bill of Rights is the guardian of our security as well as our liberty.

Senator John F. Kennedy, response to questionnaire, Saturday Review, October 29, 1960, p. 44.

Books/Reading

If time is precious, no book that will not improve by repeated reading deserves to be read at all.

Thomas Carlyle

Books/Reading

In books, it is the chief of all perfections to be plain and brief.

Butler

Books/Reading

In good books is one of the best safeguards from evil.—Life's first danger has been said to be an empty mind which, like an unoccupied room, is open for base spirits to enter.—The taste for reading provides a pleasant and elevating preoccupation.

H. W. Grout

Books/Reading

In the usual course of study I had come to a book of a certain Cicero.

St. Augustine

Confessions, III, 4

Books/Reading

Is not this a lamentable thing, that of the skin of an innocent lamb should be made parchment? that parchment, being scribbled o'er, should undo a man?

William Shakespeare

King Henry VI, II, IV, II, 88

Books/Reading

It is books that teach us to refine our pleasures when young, and to recall them with satisfaction when we are old.

Leigh Hunt

Books/Reading

It is with books as with men; a very small number play a great part, the rest are lost in the multitude.

Voltaire

Books/Reading

Many books require no thought from those who read them, and for a very simple reason: they made no such demand upon those who wrote them. Those works, therefore, are the most valuable, that set our thinking faculties in the fullest operation.

Colton

Books/Reading

Master books, but do not let them master you.—Read to live, don't live to read.

Bulwer

Books/Reading

Most books, like their authors, are born to die; of only a few books can it be said that death has no dominion over them; they live, and their influence lives forever.

J. Swartz

Books/Reading

My books kept me from the ring, the dog-pit, the tavern, and the saloon.—The associate of Pope and Addison, the mind accustomed to the noble though silent discourse of Shakespeare and Milton, will hardly seek or put up with low or evil company and slaves.

Thomas Hood

Books/Reading

Next to acquiring good friends, the best acquisition is that of good books.

Colton

Books/Reading

No book can be so good as to be profitable when negligently read.

Seneca

Books/Reading

Some books are to be tasted; others swallowed; and some few to be chewed and digested.

Bacon

Books/Reading

Some books, like the City of London, fare the better for being burned.

Tom Brown

Books/Reading

That is a good book which is opened with expectation, and closed with delight and profit.

A. B. Alcott

Books/Reading

The best books for a man are not always those which the wise recommend, but often those which meet the peculiar wants, the natural thirst of his mind, and therefore awaken interest and rivet thought.

Channing

Books/Reading

The best of a book is not the thought which it contains, but the thought which it suggests; just as the charm of music dwells not in the tones but in the echoes of our hearts.

O. W. Holmes

Books/Reading

The book salesman should be honored because he brings to our attention, as a rule, the very books we need most and neglect most.

Dr. Frank Crane

Books/Reading

The book to read is not the one which thinks for you, but the one which makes you think. No book in the world equals the Bible for that.

McCosh

Books/Reading

The books of Nature and of Revelation equally elevate our conceptions and invite our piety; they are both written by the finger of the one eternal, incomprehensible God.

T. Watson

Books/Reading

The books we read should be chosen with great care, that they may be, as an Egyptian king wrote over his library, "The medicines of the soul."

The books which help you most are those which make you think most. The hardest way of learning is by easy reading; but a great book that comes from a great thinker is a ship of thought; deep freighted with truth and beauty.

Theodore Parker

Books/Reading

The colleges, while they provide us with libraries, furnish no professors of books; and I think no chair is so much needed.

Emerson

Books/Reading

The constant habit of perusing devout books is so indispensable, that it has been termed the oil of the lamp of prayer. Too much reading, however, and too little meditation, may produce the effect of a lamp inverted; which is extinguished by the very excess of that ailment, whose property is to feed it.

H. More

Books/Reading

The most foolish kind of a book is a kind of leaky boat on the sea of wisdom; some of the wisdom will get in anyhow.

O. W. Holmes

Books/Reading

The paper burns, but the words fly away.

Ben Joseph Akiba

Last words, at the stake, when the Torah was also burned.

Books/Reading

The past but lives in written words: a thousand ages were blank if books had not evoked their ghosts, and kept the pale unbodied shades to warn us from fleshless lips.

Bulwer

Books/Reading

The readers and the hearers like my books,

But yet some writers cannot them digest;

But what care I? for when I make a feast

I would my guests should praise it, not the cooks.

Sir John Harington

Epigrams. Of Writers Who Carp at Other Men's Books

Books/Reading

The silent influence of books, is a mighty power in the world; and there is a joy in reading them known only to those who read them with desire and enthusiasm.—Silent, passive, and noiseless though they be, they yet set in action countless multitudes, and change the order of nations.

Giles

Books/Reading

The society of dead authors has this advantage over that of the living: they never flatter us to our faces, nor slander us behind our backs, nor intrude upon our privacy, nor quit their shelves until we take them down.

Colton

Books/Reading

The true university of these days is a collection of books.

Thomas Carlyle

Books/Reading

The world of books is the most remarkable creation of man. Nothing else that he builds ever lasts. Monuments fall; nations perish; civilizations grow old and die out; and, after an era of darkness, new races build others. But in the world of books are volumes that have seen this happen again and again, and yet live on, still young, still as fresh as the day they were written, still telling men's hearts of the hearts of men centuries dead.

And even the books that do not last long, penetrate their own times at least, sailing farther than Ulysses even dreamed of, like ships on the seas. It is the author's part to call into being their cargoes and passengers,—living thoughts and rich bales of study and jeweled ideas. And as for the publishers, it is they who build the fleet, plan the voyage, and sail on, facing wreck, till they find every possible harbor that will value their burden.

Clarence S. Day, The Story of the Yale University Press Told by a Friend, pp. 7-8 (1920).

Books/Reading

There is a kind of physiognomy in the titles of books no less than in the faces of men, by which a skillful observer will know as well what to expect from the one as the other.

Joseph Butler

Books/Reading

There is no book so bad but something valuable may be derived from it.

Pliny

Books/Reading

There is no book so poor that it would not be a prodigy if wholly wrought out by a single mind, without the aid of prior investigators.

Johnson

Books/Reading

There is no worse robber than a bad book.

Italian Proverb

Books/Reading

There was a time when the world acted on books; now books act on the world.

Joubert

Books/Reading

Thou mayest as well expect to grow stronger by always eating as wiser by always reading. Too much overcharges Nature, and turns more into disease than nourishment. 'Tis thought and digestion which makes books serviceable, and give health and vigor to the mind.

Fuller

Books/Reading

To buy books only because they were published by an eminent printer, is much as if a man should buy clothes that did not fit him, only because they were made by some famous tailor.

Pope

Books/Reading

To use books rightly, is to go to them for help; to appeal to them when our own knowledge and power fail; to be led by them into wider sight and purer conception than our own, and to receive from them the united sentence of the judges and councils of all time, against our solitary and unstable opinions.

Ruskin

Books/Reading

Tradition is but a meteor, which, if it once falls, cannot be rekindled.—Memory, once interrupted, is not to be recalled.—But written learning is a fixed luminary, which, after the cloud that had hidden it has passed away, is again bright in its proper station.—So books are faithful repositories, which may be awhile neglected or forgotten, but when opened again, will again impart instruction.

Johnson

Books/Reading

Truly each new book is as a ship that bears us away from the fixity of our limitations into the movement and splendor of life's infinite ocean.

Helen Keller

Books/Reading

Upon books the collective education of the race depends; they are the sole instruments of registering, perpetuating, and transmitting thought.

H. Rogers

Books/Reading

We are as liable to be corrupted by books, as by companions.

Fielding

Books/Reading

We ought to reverence books; to look on them as useful and mighty things.—If they are good and true, whether they are about religion, politics, farming, trade, law, or medicine, they are the message of Christ, the maker of all things—the teacher of all truth.

C. Kingsley

Books/Reading

When a book raises your spirit, and inspires you with noble and manly thoughts, seek for no other test of its excellence.—It is good, and made by a good workman.

Bruyere

Books/Reading

When a man loves books he has in him that which will console him under many sorrows and strengthen him in various trials. Such a love will keep him at home; and make his time pass pleasantly. Even when visited by bodily or mental affliction he can resort to this book-love and be cured….And when a man is at home and happy with a book; sitting by his fireside; he must be a churl if he does not communicate that happiness. Let him read now and then to his wife and children. Those thoughts will grow and take root in the hearts and minds of his listeners. A man who feels sympathy with what is good and noble; is at the time he feels that sympathy; good and noble himself.

J. H. Friswell

Books/Reading

When a new book comes out I read an old one.

H. Rogers

Books/Reading

Without books, God is silent, justice dormant, natural science at a stand, philosophy lame, letters dumb, and all things involved in darkness.

Bartholini

Books/Reading

Woe be to him that reads but one book.

George Herbert

Jacula Prudentum, 1146

Books/Reading

'Tis pleasant, sure, to see one's name in print;

A book's a book, though there's nothing in't.

George Gordon, Lord Byron

Books/Reading

A man may as well expect to grow stronger by always eating as wiser by always reading.

Jeremy Collier

Books/Reading

Book love…is your pass to the greatest, the purest, and the most perfect pleasure that God has prepared for His creatures.

Anthony Trollope

Books/Reading

Books…are the curse of the human race.

Benjamin Disraeli

Books/Reading

He has left off reading altogether, to the great improvement of his originality.

Charles Lamb

Books/Reading

If I had read as much as other men I should have known no more than they.

Thomas Hobbes

Books/Reading

If we encounter a man of rare intellect, we should ask him what books he reads.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Books/Reading

Some men borrow books; some men steal books; and others beg presentation copies from the author.

James Jeffrey Roche

Books/Reading

Some people read because they are too lazy to think.

G. C. Lichtenberg

Books/Reading

The best effect of any book is that it excites the reader to self activity.

Thomas Carlyle

Books/Reading

The last thing that we find in making a book is to know what we must put first.

Blaise Pascal

Books/Reading

The things I want to know are in books; my best friend is the man who'll get me a book I ain't read.

Abraham Lincoln

Books/Reading

The worst thing about new books is that they keep us from reading the old ones.

Joseph Joubert

Books/Reading

To read without reflecting is like eating without digesting.

Edmund Burke

Books/Reading

We live in an age that reads too much to be wise.

Oscar Wilde

Books/Reading

When I get a little money, I buy books; and if any is left, I buy food and clothes.

Desiderius Erasmus

Books/Reading

When we read too fast or too slowly, we understand nothing.

Blaise Pascal

Books/Reading

Where is human nature so weak as in the bookstore?

Henry Ward Beecher

Books/Reading

Who knows if Shakespeare might not have thought less if he had read more?

Edward Young

Bores

A bore is a person who talks when you want him to listen.

Ambrose Bierce

Bores

A subject for a great poet would be God's boredom after the seventh day of Creation.

Friedrich Nietzsche

Bores

Few men are more to be shunned than those who have time, but know not how to improve it, and so spend it in wasting the time of their neighbors, talking forever though they have nothing to say.

Tyron Edwards

Bores

I am never bored anywhere: being bored is an insult to oneself.

Jules Renard

Bores

It is hoped that, with all modern improvements, a way will be discovered of getting rid of bores; for it is too bad that a poor wretch can be punished for stealing your handkerchief or gloves, and that no punishment can be inflicted on those who steal your time, and with it your temper and patience, as well as the bright thoughts that might have entered your mind, if they had not been frightened away by the bore.

Byron

Bores

O, he is as tedious as is a tired horse, or a railing wife; worse than a smoky house.

Shakespeare

Bores

The secret of making one's self tiresome, is, not to know when to stop.

Voltaire

Bores

There are few wild beasts more to be dreaded than a talking man having nothing to say.

Swift

Bores

There are some kinds of men who cannot pass their time alone; they are the flails of occupied people.

Bonald

Bores

We are almost always wearied in the company of persons with whom we are not permitted to be weary.

Rochefoucauld

Bores

We often forgive those who bore us; we cannot forgive those whom we bore.

Duc de la Rochefoucauld

Borrowing

Getting into debt, is getting into a tanglesome net.

Benjamin Franklin

Borrowing

Neither a borrower, nor a lender be; for loan oft loses both itself and friend; and borrowing dulls the edge of husbandry.

Shakespeare

Borrowing

No remedy against this consumption of the purse; borrowing only lingers it out, but the disease is incurable.

Shakespeare

Borrowing

The borrower runs in his own debt.

Emerson

Bravery/Cowardice

A true knight is fuller of bravery in the midst, than in the beginning of danger.

Sir P. Sidney

Bravery/Cowardice

All brave men love; for he only is brave who has affections to fight for, whether in the daily battle of life, or in physical contests.

Hawthorne

Bravery/Cowardice

At the bottom of not a little of the bravery that appears in the world, there lurks a miserable cowardice. Men will face powder and steel because they have not the courage to face public opinion.

E. H. Chapin

Bravery/Cowardice

I count him braver who overcomes his desires than him who conquers his enemies, for the hardest victory is the victory over self.

Aristotle

Bravery/Cowardice

Nature often enshrines gallant and noble hearts in weak bosoms; oftenest, God bless her, in woman's breast.

Dickens

Bravery/Cowardice

No man can be brave who considers pain the greatest evil of life; or temperate, who regards pleasure as the highest good.

Cicero

Bravery/Cowardice

Private bravery is often the price of personal victory.

Author Unknown

Bravery/Cowardice

Someone praising a man for his foolhardy bravery, Cato, the elder, said, "There is a wide difference between true courage and a mere contempt of life."

Plutarch

Bravery/Cowardice

The best hearts are ever the bravest.

Sterne

Bravery/Cowardice

The bravery founded on hope of recompense, fear of punishment, experience of success, on rage, or on ignorance of danger, is but common bravery, and does not deserve the name.—True bravery proposes a just end; measures the dangers, and meets the result with calmness and unyielding decision.

La None

Bravery/Cowardice

A brave man is sometimes a desperado; but a bully is always a coward.

Haliburton

Brevity

Brevity is the best recommendation of speech, whether in a senator or an orator.

Cicero

Brevity

Brevity to writing is what charity is to all other virtues; righteousness is nothing without the one, nor authorship without the other.

Sydney Smith

Brevity

Genuine good taste consists in saying much in few words, in choosing among our thoughts, in having order and arrangement in what we say, and in speaking with composure.

Fenelon

Brevity

Have something to say; say it, and stop when you're done.

Tyron Edwards

Brevity

I saw one excellency within my reach—it was brevity, and I determined to obtain it.

Jay

Brevity

If you would be pungent, be brief; for it is with words as with sunbeams—the more they are condensed, the deeper they burn.

Southey

Brevity

Never be so brief as to become obscure.

Tyron Edwards

Brevity

One rare, strange virtue in speeches, and the secret of their mastery, is, that they are short.

Halleck

Brevity

Say all you have to say in the fewest possible words, or your reader will be sure to skip them; and in the plainest possible words, or he will certainly misunderstand them.

Ruskin

Brevity

Talk to the point, and stop when you have reached it.—Be comprehensive in all you say or write.—To fill a volume about nothing is a credit to nobody.

John Neal

Brevity

The fewer the words, the better the prayer.

Luther

Brevity

The one prudence of life is concentration.

Emerson

Brevity

When one has no design but to speak plain truth, he may say a great deal in a very narrow compass.

Steele

Brevity

When you introduce a moral lesson let it be brief.

Horace

Brevity

Words are like leaves, and where they most abound, much fruit of sense beneath is rarely found.

Pope

Bribery

A man who is furnished with arguments from the mint, will convince his antagonist much sooner than one who draws them from reason and philosophy.—Gold is a wonderful clearer of the understanding; it dissipates every doubt and scruple in an instant; accommodates itself to the meanest capacities; silences the loud and clamorous, and cringes over the most obstinate and inflexible.—Philip of Macedon was a man of most invincible reason this way. He refuted by it all the wisdom of Athens; confounded their statesmen; struck their orators dumb; and at length argued them out of all their liberties.

Addison

Bribery

Judges and senators have been bought with gold.

Pope

Bribery

Petitions not sweetened with gold, are but unsavory, and often refused; or if received, are pocketed, not read.

Massinger

Bribery

The universe is not rich enough to buy the vote of an honest man.

Gregory

Bribery

Though authority be a stubborn bear, yet he is oft led by the nose with gold.

Shakespeare

Bribery

Who thinketh to buy villainy with gold, shall find such faith so bought, so sold.

Marston

Broadmindedness

Broadmindedness is the result of flattening highmindedness out.

George Saintsbury

Brotherhood

Brotherhood…is, in essence, a hope on the road—the long road—to fulfillment. To claim it to be already a full-grown fact is to be guilty of hypocrisy. To admit it to be always a fiction is to be guilty of cynicism. Let us avoid both.

T. V. Smith

Brotherhood

However degraded or wretched a fellow mortal may be, he is still a member of our common species.

Seneca

Brotherhood

If God is thy father, man is thy brother.

Lamartine

Brotherhood

Jesus throws down the dividing prejudices of nationality, and teaches universal love, without distinction of race, merit, or rank.—A man's neighbor is everyone that needs help.

J. C. Geikie

Brotherhood

Our doctrine of equality, liberty and humanity comes from our belief in the brotherhood of man, through the fatherhood of God.

Calvin Coolidge

Brotherhood

Speak not too well of one who scarce will know Himself transfigured in its roseate glow; Say kindly of him what is, chiefly, true, Remembering always he belongs to you; Deal with him as a truant, if you will, but claim him, keep him, call him brother still!

Oliver Wendell Holmes, "Poem," read at a dinner given for the author by the medical profession of the City of New York, April 12, 1883.—The Poetical Works of Oliver Wendell Holmes, ed. Eleanor M. Tilton, p. 71 (1895, rev. 1975).

Brotherhood

The brotherhood of man is an integral part of Christianity no less than the Fatherhood of God; and to deny the one is no less infidel than to deny the other.

Lymann Abbott

Brotherhood

The crest and crowning of all good, life's final star, is Brotherhood.

Edwin Markham

Brotherhood

The mystic bond of brotherhood makes all men one.

Thomas Carlyle

Brotherhood

The race of mankind would perish did they cease to aid each other.—We cannot exist without mutual help. All, therefore, that need aid have a right to ask it from their fellowmen; and no one who has the power of granting can refuse it without guilt.

Walter Scott

Brotherhood

The sixteenth century said, "Responsibility to God."—The present nineteenth says, "The brotherhood of man."

C. L. Thompson

Brotherhood

The universe is but one great city, full of beloved ones, divine and human, by nature endeared to each other.

Epictetus

Brotherhood

There is a destiny that makes us brothers:

None goes his way alone:

All that we send into the lives of others

Comes back onto our own.

Edwin Markham, "A Creed," stanza 1, Poems of Edwin Markham, p. 18 (1950).

Brotherhood

There is no brotherhood of man without the fatherhood of God.

H. M. Field

Brotherhood

To correct the evils, great and small, which spring from want of sympathy and from positive enmity among strangers, as nations or as individuals, is one of the highest functions of civilization.

Abraham Lincoln

Brotherhood

To live is not to live for one's self alone; let us help one another.

Menander

Brotherhood

Until you have become really in actual fact a brother of everyone, brotherhood will not come to pass. Only by brotherhood will liberty be saved.

Fyodor Dostoyevski

Brotherhood

Until you have become really, in actual fact, as brother to everyone, brotherhood will not come to pass.

Fyodor Dostoyevski (1821-1881)

The Brothers Karamazov (1880), Bk. VI, ch. 2

Brotherhood

We are members of one great body, planted by nature in a mutual love, and fitted for a social life.—We must consider that we were born for the good of the whole.

Seneca

Brotherhood

We must love men ere they will seem to us worthy of our love.

Shakespeare

Builders/Wreckers

A speck of dust may clog the works of a watch; mere stones derail the fastest train; little ship-worms sink the proudest schooner; Marine vermin contrive to destroy the mightiest dikes.

Author Unknown

Building

He that is fond of building will soon ruin himself without the help of enemies.

Plutarch

Building

Never build after you are five-and-forty; have five years' income in hand before you lay a brick; and always calculate the expense at double the estimate.

Kett

Building

Something men have that half-gods never know, the power to sensitize cold, lifeless things; to make stones breathe, and out of metal grow escarpments that deny the need of wings.

Virginia McCormick

Building

They go to the forest for palm or pine, the stuff for the humbler homes; the mountain gives up its valued gifts, for the stately spires and domes; but whether they work with marble or sod, the builder is hand-in-hand with God.

William Dunbar

Burdens

If we could look inside the other person at scars from the battles he has lost, our own scars would weigh less heavy.

Joshua Riebman

Bureaucracy

Bureaucracy is a giant mechanism operated by pygmies.

Honore de Balzac

Bureaucracy

But it is not by the consolidation, or concentration, of powers, but by their distribution that good government is effected.

Thomas Jefferson

Bureaucracy

I do not rule Russia; ten thousand clerks do.

Nicholas I

Bureaucracy

We trained hard…but every time we were beginning to form up into teams, we would be reorganized. I was to learn later in life that we tend to meet any new situation by reorganizing…and a wonderful method it can be for creating the illusion of progress while producing inefficiency and demoralization.

Petronius

Business

You do as chapmen do,

Dispraise the thing that you desire to buy.

William Shakespeare

Troilus and Cressida, IV, i, 75

Business

A business consultant is a person who knows much less about your business than you do yourself, but who is prepared to advise you how to run it, for a fee which your business could not possibly afford to pay even if it was run properly instead of according to his advice.

John Roughton Simpson

Business

A criminal is a person with predatory instincts who has not sufficient capital to form a corporation.

Howard Scott

Business

After all, the chief business of the American people is business.

President Calvin Coolidge, address before the American Society of Newspaper Editors, Washington, D.C., January 17, 1925.—Coolidge, Foundations of the Republic, p. 187 (1926).Usually misquoted as: "The business of America is business."

Business

After all, what the worker does is buy back from those who finance him the goods that he himself produces. Pay him a wage that enables him to buy, and you fill your market with ready consumers.

James J. Davis

Business

All business proceeds on beliefs, or judgments of probabilities, and not on certainties.

Charles W. Eliot

Business

An excellent monument might be erected to the Unknown Stockholder. It might take the form of a solid stone ark of faith apparently floating in a pool of water.

Felix Riesenberg

Business

Anybody can cut prices, but it takes brains to make a better article.

Alice Hubbard

Business

As we view the achievements of aggregated capital, we discover the existence of trusts, combinations, and monopolies, while the citizen is struggling far in the rear or is trampled to death beneath an iron heel. Corporations, which should be the restrained creatures of the law and the servants of the people, are fast becoming the people's masters.

Grover Cleveland

Annual Message to Congress, 1888.

Business

Big business is a superior economic tool by which to provide those things that constitute the physical basis of living… (Also) in bigness we have the material foundation of a society which can further the highest values known to men, values we describe as "spiritual."

David E. Lilienthal

Business

Big Business is basic to the very life of this country; and yet many—perhaps most—Americans have a deep-seated fear and an emotional repugnance to it. Here is a monumental contradiction.

David E. Lilienthal

Business

Bigness is still the curse.

Justice Louis D. Brandeis, conversation with Alfred Lief, December 7, 1940.—The Brandeis Guide to the Modern World, ed. Alfred Lief, p. 20 (1941).

The Curse of Bigness is the title of a collection of Brandeis's papers published in 1934.

Business

Business is a combination of war and sport.

Andre Maurois

Business

Business is never so healthy as when, like a chicken, it must do a certain amount of scratching for what it gets.

Henry Ford

Business

Business may not be the noblest pursuit, but it is true that men are bringing to it some of the qualities which actuate the explorer, scientist, artist: the zest, the open-mindedness, even the disinterestedness, with which the scientific investigator explores some field of pure research.

Earnest Elmo Calkins

Business

Business needs more of the professional spirit. The professional spirit seeks professional integrity, from pride, not from compulsion. The professional spirit detects its own violations and penalizes them.

Henry Ford

Business

Business will continue to go where invited and remain where appreciated.

Author Unknown

Business

Business without profit is not business any more than a pickle is candy.

Charles F. Abbott

Business

Corporation: An ingenious device for obtaining individual profit without individual responsibility.

Ambrose Bierce

Business

Do other men for they would do you. That's the true business precept.

Charles Dickens

Business

Formerly when great fortunes were only made in war, war was business; but now when great fortunes are only made by business, business is war.

Bovee

Business

Free competition,…though within certain limits just and productive of good results, cannot be the ruling principle of the economic world.

Pope Pius XI

Business

I remember that a wise friend of mine did usually say, "That which is everybody's business is nobody's business."

Izaak Walton

The Compleat Angler, I, 2

Business

I think that there is nothing, not even crime, more opposed to poetry, to philosophy, ay, to life itself than is this incessant business.

Henry David Thoreau

Business

If the Golden Rule is to be preached at all in these modern days, when so much of our life is devoted to business, it must be preached especially in its application to the conduct of business.

Ferdinand S. Schenck

Business

If there must always be a laboring population distinct from proprietors and employers, we regard the slave system as decidedly preferable to the system at wages.

Orestes A. Brownson

Boston Quarterly, July, 1840.

Business

In our days not alone is wealth accumulated, but immense power and despotic economic domination is concentrated in the hands of a few, and that those few are for the most part not the owners, but only the trustees and directors of invested funds, who administer them at their good pleasure…so that no one dare breathe against their will.

Pope Pius XI

Business

Let every man mind his own business.

Miguel de Cervantes

Don Quixote, pt. I, III, 8, 157

Business

Love of bustle is not industry.

Lucius Annaeus Seneca

Epistles, 3, 5

Business

Markets as well as mobs respond to human emotions; markets as well as mobs can be inflamed to their own destruction.

Owen D. Young

Business

Men of great parts are of the unfortunate in the management of public business, because they are apt to go out of the common road by the quickness of their imagination.

Swift

Business

Method goes far to prevent Trouble in Business: For it makes the Task easy, hinders Confusion, saves abundance of Time, and instructs those that have Business depending, both what to do and what to hope.

William Penn,

Some Fruits of Solitude in Reflections & Maxims,

no. 403, p. 70 (1903, reprinted 1976).

Business

Money-getters are the benefactors of our race. To them…are we indebted for our institutions of learning, and of art, our academies, colleges and churches.

P. T. Barnum

Business

Most are engaged in business the greater part of their lives, because the soul abhors a vacuum and they have not discovered any continuous employment for man's nobler faculties.

Henry David Thoreau

Business

Most of those who say so easily that this is our way out do not, I am convinced, understand that fundamental changes of attitude, new disciplines, revised legal structures, unaccustomed limitations on activity, are all necessary if we are to plan. This amounts, in fact, to the abandonment, finally, of laissez faire. it amounts, practically, to the abolition of "business."

Rexford G. Tugwell, "The Principle of Planning and the institution of Laissez Faire," paper presented at the 44th annual meeting of the American Economic Association.—The American Economic Review, vol. 22, no. 1, supplement, March 1932, p. 76.

Business

Not because of any extraordinary talents did he succeed, but because he had a capacity on a level for business and not above it.

Tacitus

Business

One aspect of modern life which has gone far to stifle men is the rapid growth of tremendous corporations. Enormous spiritual sacrifices are made in the transformation of shopkeepers into employees…. The disappearance of free enterprise has led to a submergence of the individual in the impersonal corporation in much the same manner as he has been submerged in the state in other lands.

William O. Douglas, chairman, Securities and Exchange Commission, speech at annual dinner of Fordham University Alumni Association, New York City, February 9, 1939.—James Allen, Democracy and Finance, p. 291 (1940, reprinted 1969).This was Douglas's last speech before his appointment to the Supreme Court.

Business

So the question is, do corporate executives, provided they stay within the law, have responsibilities in their business activities other than to make as much money for their stockholders as possible? And my answer to that is, no they do not.

Milton Friedman, interview with John McClaughry, contributing editor of Business and Society Review, on the topic of corporate social responsibility.—"Milton Friedman Responds," Chemtech, February 1974, p. 72.

Business

Some day the ethics of business will be universally recognized, and in that day Business will be seen to be the oldest and most useful of all the professions.

Henry Ford

Business

Success or failure in business is caused more by the mental attitude than by mental capacities.

Walter Dill Scott

Business

Talk of nothing but business, and dispatch that business quickly.

Aldus Manutius

Placard on the door of the Aldine Press, Venice, established

about 1490

Business

That I should make him that steals my coat a present of my cloak—what would become of business?

Katharine Lee Bates

Business

The "tired business man" is one whose business is usually not a successful one.

Senator Joseph R. Grundy

Business

The art of winning in business is in working hard—not taking things too seriously.

Elbert Hubbard

Business

The best mental effort in the game of business is concentrated on the major problem of securing the consumer's dollar before the other fellow gets it.

Stuart Chase

Business

The lawyer and the doctor and other professional men have often a touch of civilization. The banker and the merchant seldom.

Jim Tully

Business

The man who is above his business may one day find his business above him.

Drew

Business

The manufacturer who waits in the woods for the world to beat a path to his door, is a great optimist. But the manufacturer who shows his "mousetraps" to the world keeps the smoke coming out of his chimney.

O. B. Winters

Business

The musician, the painter, the poet, are, in a larger sense, no greater artists than the man of commerce.

W. S. Maverick

Business

The old days of "caveat emptor"—let the buyer beware—are gone.

Alvan Macauley

Business

The substance of the eminent Socialist gentleman's speech is that making a profit is a sin, but it is my belief that the real sin is taking a loss.

Winston Churchill, remarks in the House of Commons responding to a Laborite speech on the evils of free enterprise.—James C. Humes, Speaker's Treasury of Anecdotes About the Famous, p. 45 (1978). Unverified.

Business

The trusts and combinations—the communism of self—whose machinations have prevented us from reaching the success we deserved, should not be forgotten nor forgiven.

President Grover Cleveland, letter to Representative Thomas C. Catchings, August 27, 1894.—Letters of Grover Cleveland, 1850-1908, ed. Allan Nevins, p. 365 (1933).

Business

The way to stop financial "joy-riding" is to arrest the chauffeur, not the automobile.

Woodrow Wilson

Business

There are two times in a man's life when he should not speculate: when he can't afford it and when he can.

Mark Twain

Business

There is now scarcely any outlet for energy in this country except business….But it was men of another stamp than this that made England what it is; and men of another stamp will be needed to prevent its decline.

John Stuart Mill

Business

This administration is not sympathetic to corporations, it is indentured to corporations.

Ralph Nader, quoted in a news conference, October 3, 1972, speaking about the Nixon Administration, as reported by The Washington Post, October 4, 1972, p. A2.

Business

To business that we love, we rise betimes, and go to it with delight.

Shakespeare

Business

To manage a business successfully requires as much courage as that possessed by the soldier who goes to war. Business courage is the more natural because all the benefits which the public has in material wealth come from it.

Charles F. Abbott

Business

We are obviously all hurt by inflation. Everybody is hurt by inflation. If you really wanted to examine who percentage-wise is hurt the most in their incomes, it is the Wall Street brokers. I mean their incomes have gone down the most.

Alan Greenspan, chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers, at a conference on inflation, Washington, D.C., September 19, 1974.—Report of the Health, Education, and Welfare, Income Security, Social Services Conference on Inflation, pp. 804-5 (1974).

Business

We believe that there is one economic lesson which our twentieth century experience has demonstrated conclusively—that America can no more survive and grow without big business than it can survive and grow without small business…. the two are inter-dependent. You cannot strengthen one by weakening the other, and you cannot add to the stature of a dwarf by cutting off the legs of a giant.

Benjamin Franklin Fairless, president of United States Steel Corporation, testimony, April 26, 1950.—Study of Monopoly Power, hearings before the Subcommittee on Study of Monopoly Power of the Committee on the Judiciary, House of Representatives, 81st Congress, 2d session, part 4A, "Steel" p. 466 (1950).

Business

We demand that big business give people a square deal; in return we must insist that when anyone engaged in big business honestly endeavours to do right, he shall himself be given a square deal.

Theodore Roosevelt

Business

Wealthy owners and all masters of labor should be mindful of this: that to exercise pressure upon the indigent and the destitute for the sake of gain, and to gather one's profit out of the need of another, is condemned by all laws, human and divine.

Pope Leo XIII

Business

When nations grow old the Arts grow cold

And Commerce settles on every tree.

William Blake

Busybodies

I never knew any one to interfere with other people's disputes, but that he heartily repented of it.

Lord Carlisle

Busybodies

Nobody ever pries into another man's concerns, but with a design to do, or to be able to do him a mischief.

South

Busybodies

One who is too wise an observer of the business of others, like one who is too curious in observing the labor of bees, will often be stung for his curiosity.

Pope

But

"But" is a word that cools many a warm impulse, stifles many a kindly thought, puts a dead stop to many a brotherly deed.—No one would ever love his neighbor as himself if he listened to all the "buts" that could be said.

Bulwer

But

I do not like "But yet"—It does allay the good precedence.—Fie upon "but yet."—"But yet" is as a jailer, to bring forth some monstrous malefactor.

Shakespeare

But

Oh, now comes that bitter word—but, which makes all nothing that was said before, that smooths and wounds, that strikes and dashes more than a flat denial, or a plain disgrace.

Daniel

But

The meanest, most contemptible kind of praise is that which first speaks well of a man, and then qualifies it with a "but."

H. W. Beecher

Calamity

A trouble is a trouble, and the general idea, in the country, is to treat it as such, rather than to snatch the knotted cords from the hand of God and deal out murderous blows.

William McFee

Calamity

Calamity is man's true touchstone.

Beaumont and Fletcher

Calamity

Calamity is the perfect glass wherein we truly see and know ourselves.

Davenant

Calamity

If we take sinful means to avoid calamity, that very often brings it upon us.

Wall

Calamity

It is only from the belief of the goodness and wisdom of a supreme being, that our calamities can be borne in the manner which becomes a man.

Mackenzie

Calamity

When any calamity has been suffered, the first thing to be remembered is, how much has been escaped.

Johnson

California

The Senator says the territory of California is three times greater than the average extent of the new States of the Union. Well, Sir, suppose it is. We all know that it has more than three times as many mountains, inaccessible and rocky hills, and sandy wastes, as are possessed by any State of the Union. But how much is there of useful land? how much that may be made to contribute to the support of man and of society? These ought to be the questions. Well, with respect to that, I am sure that everybody has become satisfied that, although California may have a very great sea-board, and a large city or two, yet that the agricultural products of the whole surface now are not, and never will be, equal to one half part of those of the State of Illinois; no, nor yet a fourth, or perhaps a tenth part.

Senator Daniel Webster, remarks in the Senate on admitting California into the Union, June 27, 1850.—The Writings and Speeches of Daniel Webster, vol. 10, p. 130 (1903).

California

What was the use of my having come from Oakland it was not natural to have come from there yes write about it if I like or anything if I like but not there, there is no there there.

Gertrude Stein, Everybody's Autobiography, p. 289 (1937, reprinted 1971).

Calumny

At every word, a reputation dies.

Pope

Calumny

Back-wounding, calumny the whitest virtue strikes.

Shakespeare

Calumny

Be thou chaste as ice, and pure as snow, thou shalt not escape calumny.

Shakespeare

Calumny

Believe nothing against another but on good authority; and never report what may hurt another, unless it be a greater hurt to some other to conceal it.

Penn

Calumny

Calumny crosses oceans, scales mountains, and traverses deserts with greater ease than the Scythian Abaris, and, like him, rides upon a poisoned arrow.

Colton

Calumny

Calumny is like the wasp that worries you, which it is not best to try to get rid of unless you are sure of slaying it; for otherwise it returns to the charge more furious than ever.

Chamfort

Calumny

Close thine ear against him that opens his mouth against another.—If thou receive not his words, they fly back and wound him.—If thou receive them, they flee forward and wound thee.

Quarles

Calumny

False praise can please, and calumny affright, none but the vicious and the hypocrite.

Horace

Calumny

He that lends an easy and credulous ear to calumny, is either a man of very ill morals, or he has no more sense and understanding than a child.

Menander

Calumny

I am beholden to calumny, that she hath so endeavored to belie me.—It shall make me set a surer guard on myself, and keep a better watch upon my actions.

Ben Jonson

Calumny

I never listen to calumnies; because, if they are untrue, I run the risk of being deceived; and if they are true, of hating persons not worth thinking about.

Montesquieu

Calumny

I never think it needful to regard calumnies; they are sparks, which, if you do not blow them, will go out of themselves.

Boerhave

Calumny

Neglected calumny soon expires; show that you are hurt, and you give it the appearance of truth.

Tacitus

Calumny

Never cause a lie; if you let it alone, it will soon run itself to death.—You can work out a good character faster than calumny can destroy it.

E. Nott

Calumny

No might nor greatness in mortality can censure 'scape; back wounding calumny the whitest virtue strikes: What king so strong, can tie the gall up in the slanderous tongue?

Shakespeare

Calumny

Opposition and calumny are often the brightest tribute that vice and folly can pay to virtue and wisdom.

Rutherford B. Hayes

Calumny

The calumniator inflicts wrong by slandering the absent; and he who gives credit to the calumny before he knows it is true, is equally guilty.—The person traduced is doubly injured; by him who propagates, and by him who credits the slander.

Herodotus

Calumny

The opposite of what is said about people and things is often the truth.

La Bruyere

Calumny

The upright man, if he suffer calumny to move him, fears the tongue of man more than the eye of God.

Colton

Calumny

There are calumnies against which even innocence loses courage.

Napoleon

Calumny

Those who ought to be most secure against calumny, are generally those who least escape it.

Stanislaus

Calumny

To seem disturbed at calumny is the way to make it believed, and stabbing your defamer will not prove you innocent.—Live an exemplary life, and then your good character will overcome and refute the calumny.

Blair

Calumny

Virtue itself 'scapes not calumnious strokes.

Shakespeare

Calumny

We cannot control the evil tongues of others, but a good life enables us to despise them.

Cato

Calumny

When conscience is pure it triumphs o'er bitter malice, o'er dark calumny; but if there be in it one single stain, reproaches beat like hammers in the ears.

Alexander Pushkin

Calumny

Who stabs my name would stab my person too, did not the hangman's axe lie in the way?

Crown

Camaraderie

Comrade-love is as a welding blast of candid flame and ardent temperature: glowing more fervent, it doth bind more fast.

James Jeffrey Roche

Camaraderie

Forsooth, brethren, fellowship is heaven and lack of fellowship is hell; fellowship is life and lack of fellowship is death; and the deeds that ye do upon the earth, it is for fellowship's sake that ye do them.

William Morris

Camaraderie

The company of just and righteous men is better than wealth and a rich estate.

Euripides

Camaraderie

The grasp of fellowship which warms us more than wine.

Julia Ward Howe

Camaraderie

To disbelieve in marriage is easy; to love a married woman is easy; but to betray a comrade, to be disloyal to a host, to break the covenant of bread and salt, is impossible.

George Bernard Shaw

Campaign Funds

Groups like ours are potentially very dangerous to the political process. We could be a menace, yes. Ten independent expenditure groups, for example, could amass this great amount of money and defeat the point of accountability in politics. We could say whatever we want about an opponent of a Senator Smith and the senator wouldn't have to say anything. A group like ours could lie through its teeth and the candidate it helps stays clean.

John Terry Dolan, as reported by The Washington Post, August 10, 1980, p. F1.

Dolan, chairman of the National Conservative Political Action Committee (NCPAC), later claimed this remark was taken out of context, since he was speaking of a hypothetical situation.

Campaign Funds

I am deeply touched—not as deeply touched as you have been coming to this dinner, but nevertheless it is a sentimental occasion.

Senator John F. Kennedy, remarks at a fund-raising dinner, Salt Lake City, Utah, September 23, 1960.—Freedom of Communications, final report of the Committee on Commerce, United States Senate, part 1, p. 355 (1961). Senate Rept. 87-994.

Campaign Funds

The need for collecting large campaign funds would vanish if Congress provided an appropriation for the proper and legitimate expenses of each of the great national parties, an appropriation ample enough to meet the necessity for thorough organization and machinery, which requires a large expenditure of money. Then the stipulation should be made that no party receiving campaign funds from the Treasury should accept more than a fixed amount from any individual subscriber or donor; and the necessary publicity for receipts and expenditures could without difficulty be provided.

President Theodore Roosevelt, annual message to Congress, December 3, 1907.—State Papers as Governor and President, 1899-1909 (vol. 17 of The Works of Theodore Roosevelt, national ed.), p. 461 (1926).

Campus Violence

In several educational institutions during the last few years manifestation of student activity in riots has been exciting the country. To the conservative mind, these riots bode no good. As a matter of fact student riots of one sort or another, protests against the order that is, kicks against college and university management indicate a healthy growth and a normal functioning of the academic mind.

Youth should be radical. Youth should demand change in the world. Youth should not accept the old order if the world is to move on. But the old orders should not be moved easily—certainly not at the mere whim or behest of youth. There must be clash and if youth hasn't enough force or fervor to produce the clash the world grows stale and stagnant and sour in decay. If our colleges and universities do not breed men who riot, who rebel, who attack life with all the youthful vim and vigor, then there is something wrong with our colleges. The more riots that come on college campuses, the better world for tomorrow.

William Allen White,

"Student Riots," editorial,

The Emporia (Kansas) Gazette,

April 8, 1932.

—White, Forty Years on Main Street,

comp. Russell H. Fitzgibbon, p. 331 (1937).

Campus Violence

This is the criminal left that belongs not in a dormitory, but in a penitentiary. The criminal left is not a problem to be solved by the Department of Philosophy or the Department of English—it is a problem for the Department of Justice…. Black or white, the criminal left is interested in power. It is not interested in promoting the renewal and reforms that make democracy work; it is interested in promoting those collisions and conflict that tear democracy apart.

Vice President Spiro T. Agnew, speech at a Florida Republican dinner, Fort Lauder-dale, Florida, April 28, 1970.—Collected Speeches of Spiro Agnew, p. 135 (1971).

Campus Violence

You think of those kids out there. I say "kids." I have seen them. They are the greatest. You see these bums, you know blowing up the campuses. Listen, the boys that are on the college campuses today are the luckiest people in the world, going to the greatest universities, and here they are burning up the books, I mean storming around about this issue—I mean you name it—get rid of the war; there will be another one. Out there we've got kids who are just doing their duty. I have seen them. They stand tall, and they are proud. I am sure they are scared. I was when I was there. But when it really comes down to it, they stand up and, boy, you have to talk up to those men. And they are going to do fine; we've got to stand back of them.

President Richard M. Nixon, informal conversation with one of a group of employees who had gathered in a corridor to greet him at the Pentagon, May 1, 1970.—The Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Richard Nixon, 1970, p. 417, footnote 1.

Candor

Candor is the brightest gem of criticism.

Disraeli

Candor

Candor is the seal of a noble mind, the ornament and pride of man, the sweetest charm of women, the scorn of rascals, and the rarest virtue of sociability.

Sternac

Candor

Examine what is said, not him who speaks.

Arabian Proverb

Candor

Friends, if we be honest with ourselves, we shall be honest with each other.

G. MacDonald

Candor

Give me the avowed, the erect, the manly foe, bold I can meet,—perhaps may turn his blow! But of all plagues, good Heavens, thy wrath can send, save, save, oh save me from the candid friend!

George Canning

Candor

I can promise to be candid, though I may not be impartial.

Goethe

Candor

I make it my rule to lay hold of light and embrace it, wherever I see it, though held forth by a child or an enemy.

President Edwards

Candor

Innocence in genius and candor in power, are both noble qualities.

Madame de Stael

Candor

It is great and manly to disdain disguise; it shows our spirit and proves our strength.

Young

Candor

Making my breast transparent as pure crystal, that the world, jealous of me, may see the foulest thought my heart doth hold.

Buckingham

Candor

Men should be what they seem; or those that be not, would they might seem none!

Shakespeare

Candor

The diligent fostering of a candid habit of mind, even in trifles, is a matter of high monument both to character and opinions.

Howson

Capacity

Attempt only what you are able to perform.

Cato

Distichia

Capacity

We are not all capable of everything.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Elogues, VIII, 63

Capital/Capitalism

The perfecting of machinery is making human labor superfluous…. Thus it comes about, to quote Marx, that machinery becomes the most powerful weapon in the war of capital against the working class; that the instruments of labor constantly tear the means of the subsistence out of the hands of the laborer; that the very product of the worker is turned into an instrument for his subjugation.

Friedrich Engels (1820-1895)

Anti-Duhring (1878)

Capital/Capitalism

If you divorce capital from labor, capital is hoarded, and labor starves.

Daniel Webster

Capital/Capitalism

It is assumed that labor is available only in connection with capital; that nobody labors unless somebody else, owning capital, somehow by the use of it, induces him to labor. This assumed, it is next considered whether it is best that capital shall hire laborers, and thus induce them to work by their consent. Having proceeded so far, it is naturally concluded that all laborers are either hired laborers or what we call slaves.

Now, there is no such relation between capital and labor as here assumed….Labor is prior to and independent of capital. Capital is only the fruit of labor and could never have existed if labor had not first existed. Labor is the superior of capital, and deserves much the higher consideration.

Abraham Lincoln

Capital/Capitalism

It is probably true that business corrupts everything it touches. It corrupts politics, sports, literature, art, labor unions and so on. But business also corrupts and undermines monolithic totalitarianism. Capitalism is at its liberating best in a noncapitalist environment.

Eric Hoffer, "Thoughts of Eric Hoffer, Including: 'Absolute Faith Corrupts Absolutely,'" The New York Times Magazine, April 25, 1971, p. 50.

Capital/Capitalism

The market is the place set apart where men may deceive each other.

Anarcharsis

Quoted by Diogenes Laertius.

Capital/Capitalism

The number of useful and productive laborers is everywhere in proportion to the quantity of capital stock which is employed in setting them to work and to the particular way in which it is so employed.

Adam Smith

The Wealth of Nations

Capital/Capitalism

The oppressed are allowed once every few years to decide which particular representatives of the oppressing class are to represent and repress them.

Karl Marx

Capital/Capitalism

The wage earner relies upon the ventures of confident and contented capital. This failing him, his condition is without alleviation, for he can neither prey on the misfortune of others nor hoard his labor.

Grover Cleveland

Message, August 8, 1893.

Capital/Capitalism

Under capitalism man exploits man; under socialism the reverse is true.

Polish Proverb

Capital/Capitalism

When commercial capital occupies a position of unquestioned ascendancy, it everywhere constitutes a system of plunder.

Karl Marx

Das Kapital

Capital/Capitalism

You have to choose (as a voter) between trusting to the natural stability of gold and the natural stability of the honesty and intelligence of the members of the Government. And, with due respect for these gentlemen, I advise you, as long as the Capitalist system lasts, to vote for gold.

George Bernard Shaw, The Intelligent Woman's Guide to Socialism and Capitalism, chapter 55, p. 263 (1928).In the "Foreword for American Readers" Shaw says, "Finally, I have been asked whether there are any intelligent women in America. There must be; for politically the men there are such futile gossips that the United States could not possibly carry on unless there were some sort of practical intelligence back of them. But I will let you into a secret which bears on this point. By this book I shall get at the American men through the American women" (p. xi).

Capitol Building, Washington, D.C.

After much menutial search for an elligible situation, prompted I may say from a fear of being prejudiced in favour of a first opinion I could discover no one so advantageously to greet the congressional building as is that on the west end of Jenkins heights which stand as a pedestal waiting for a monument, and I am confident, were all the wood cleared from the ground no situation could stand in competition with this. some might perhaps require less labour to be rendered agreeable but after all assistance of arts none ever would be made so grand and all other would appear but of secondary nature.

Pierre Charles L'Enfant, letter to George Washington, June 22, 1791.—Records of the Columbia Historical Society, vol. 2, p. 35 (1899).This letter contained a description of Capitol Hill, then called Jenkins Hill.

Capitol Building, Washington, D.C.

If people see the Capitol going on, it is a sign we intend the Union shall go on.

President Abraham Lincoln.—Carl Sandburg, Abraham Lincoln, vol. 2, p. 535 (1939).This remark was made in 1863 to John Eaton of Toledo, Ohio, who had talked to Lincoln about "hoisting the statue of Liberty over the Capitol dome, new marble pillars to be installed on the Senate wing, a massive and richly embellished bronze door being made for the main central portal. People were saying it was an extravagance during wartime" (pp. 534-35).

Capitol Building, Washington, D.C.

We have built no national temples but the Capitol; we consult no common oracle but the Constitution.

Representative Rufus Choate, "The importance of Illustrating New-England History by a Series of Romances like the Waverley Novels" lecture delivered at Salem, Massachusetts, 1833.—Samuel Gilman Brown, The Works of Rufus Choate with a Memoir of His Life, vol. 1, p. 345 (1862).

Cards

It is quite right that there should be a heavy duty on cards; not only on moral grounds; not only because they act on a social party like a torpedo, silencing the merry voice and numbing the play of the features; not only to fill the hunger of the public purse, which is always empty, however much you may put into it; but also because every pack of cards is a malicious libel on courts, and on the world, seeing that the trumpery with number one at the head is the best part of them; and that it gives kings and queens no other companions than knaves.

Southey

Cards

It is very wonderful to see persons of the best sense passing hours together in shuffling and dividing a pack of cards with no conversation but what is made up of a few game-phrases, and no other ideas but those of black or red spots arranged together in different figures. Would not a man laugh to hear any one of his species complaining that life is short?

Addison

Care

"Many of our cares," says Scott, "are but a morbid way of looking at our privileges."—We let our blessings get mouldy, and then call them curses.

H. W. Beecher

Care

Anxious care rests on a basis of heathen worldly-mindedness, and of heathen misunderstanding of the character of God.

A. Maclaren

Care

Care admitted as a guest, quickly turns to be a master.

Bovee

Care

Care is no cure, but rather a corrosive for things that are not to be remedied.

Shakespeare

Care

Care keeps his watch in every old man's eye; and where care lodges sleep will never lie.

Shakespeare

Care

Cares are often more difficult to throw off than sorrows; the latter die with time; the former grow upon it.

Richter

Care

He that takes his cares on himself loads himself in vain with an uneasy burden.—I will cast my cares on God; he has bidden me; they cannot burden Him.

Joseph Hall

Care

Life's cares are comforts; such by heaven design'd; he that hath none must take them, or be wretched; cares are employments; and without employ the soul is on the rack; the rack of rest, to souls most adverse; action all their joy.

Young

Care

Men do not avail themselves of the riches of God's grace.—They love to nurse their cares, and seem as uneasy without some fret as an old friar would be without his hair girdle.—They are commanded to cast their cares on the Lord; but even when they attempt it, they do not fail to catch them up again, and think it meritorious to walk burdened.

H. W. Beecher

Care

Only man clogs his happiness with care, destroying what is, with thoughts of what may be.

Dryden

Care

Our cares are the mothers not only of our charities and virtues, but of our best joys, and most cheering and enduring pleasures.

Simms

Care

Providence has given us hope and sleep as a compensation for the many cares of life.

Voltaire

Care

Put off thy cares with thy clothes; so shall thy rest strengthen thy labor, and so thy labor sweeten thy rest.

Quarles

Care

The cares of today are seldom those of tomorrow; and when we lie down at night we may safely say to most of our troubles, "Ye have done your worst, and we shall see you no more."

Cowper

Care

They lose the world who buy it, with much care.

Shakespeare

Care

This world has cares enough to plague us; but he who meditates on others' woe, shall, in that meditation, lose his own.

Cumberland

Care

To carry care to bed, is to sleep with a pack on your back.

Haliburton

Care

We can easily manage, if we will only take, each day, the burden appointed for it.—But the load will be too heavy for us if we carry yesterday's burden over again today, and then add the burden of the morrow to the weight before we are required to bear it.

John Newton

Carelessness

Carelessness does more harm than a want of knowledge.

Benjamin Franklin

Caricature

Nothing conveys a more inaccurate idea of a whole truth than a part of a truth so prominently brought forth as to throw the other parts into shadow.—This is the art of caricature, by the happy use of which you might caricature the Apollo Belvidere.

Bulwer

Caricature

Take my advice, and never draw caricature.—By the long practice of it I have lost the enjoyment of beauty.—I never see a face but distorted, and never have the satisfaction to behold the human face divine.

Hogarth

Caring

I don't care how much you know until I know how much you care.

Author Unknown

Castles In The Air

Charming Alnaschar visions! It is the happy privilege of youth to construct you!

Thackeray

Castles In The Air

Ever building to the clouds, and never reflecting that the poor narrow basis cannot sustain the giddy, tottering column.

Schiller

Castles In The Air

If you have built castles in the air, your work need not be lost; there is where they should be. Now put foundations under them.

Thoreau

Castles In The Air

We build on the ice, and write on the waves of the sea.—The waves roaring, pass away; the ice melts, and away goes our palace, like our thoughts.

Herder

Cats

I cannot agree that it should be the declared public policy of Illinois that a cat visiting a neighbor's yard or crossing the highways is a public nuisance. It is in the nature of cats to do a certain amount of unescorted roaming. Many live with their owners in apartments or other restricted premises, and I doubt if we want to make their every brief foray an opportunity for a small game hunt by zealous citizens—with traps or otherwise. I am afraid this Bill could only create discord, recrimination and enmity. Also consider the owner's dilemma: To escort a cat abroad on a leash is against the nature of the cat, and to permit it to venture forth for exercise unattended into a night of new dangers is against the nature of the owner. Moreover, cats perform useful service, particularly in rural areas, in combating rodents—work they necessarily perform alone and without regard for property lines.

We are all interested in protecting certain varieties of birds. That cats destroy some birds, I well know, but I believe this legislation would further but little the worthy cause to which its proponents give such unselfish effort. The problem of cat versus bird is as old as time. If we attempt to resolve it by legislation who knows but what we may be called upon to take sides as well in the age old problems of dog versus cat, bird versus bird, or even bird versus worm. In my opinion, the State of Illinois and its local governing bodies already have enough to do without trying to control feline delinquency.

Adlai E. Stevenson, governor of Illinois, veto message, April 23, 1949.—The Papers of Adlai E. Stevenson, ed. Walter Johnson, vol. 3, pp. 73-74 (1973).

This was one of Stevenson's first veto messages. "A small but devoted group of bird-lovers were able to have a bill introduced in the legislature designed to protect birds by restraining cats. In previous years it was passed by one house, only to be turned down by the other. In 1949 it passed both houses and the decision was finally shifted to the Governor. Stevenson's message returning the measure became known as the 'Cat Bill Veto' and received widespread publicity, because of its wit and good humor. On April 27, 1949, the Chicago Daily News stated, 'Many Adlaiphiles immediately proclaimed it one of the noble pronouncements of our time, comparable to the boldest state documents from the pen of F.D.R. or Winston Churchill…. Mr. Stevenson did no pussyfooting on pussy's perambulations. He did not seek to make a cat's paw out of the Supreme Court by citing decisions of dubious relevancy. He categorically assumed full responsibility for his momentous decision. He did not assert that the bill's effort to restrict felines to lives of sedentary domesticity was a violation of the Constitution. He invoked a higher law—the law of Nature'." (pp. 72-73).

Cats

Of all God's creatures there is only one that cannot be made the slave of the lash. That one is the cat. If man could be crossed with the cat it would improve man, but it would deteriorate the cat.

Mark Twain (Samuel L. Clemens), Mark Twain's Notebook, prep. Albert B. Paine, pp. 236-37 (1935, reprinted 1972).

Catholicism

A man who started in life…a sincere Catholic and a sincere Liberal; who therefore renounced everything in Catholicism which was not compatible with liberty, and everything in politics that was not compatible with Catholicity.

Lord Acton (John E. E. Dalberg)

(on himself).

Catholicism

All diseases of Christians are to be ascribed to demons; chiefly do they torment freshly-baptized Christians, yea, even the guiltless new-born infants.

St. Augustine

Catholicism

And the Generalissimo, the Prime Minister of Russia, leaned on the table, and he pulled his mustache like that, and looked over at Mr. Churchill and said: "Mr. Churchill, Mr. Prime Minister, how many divisions did you say the Pope had?"

Joseph Stalin, as quoted by President Harry S. Truman.—The New York Times, September 14, 1948, p. 24. Truman related this while delivering a speech to the American Association for the Advancement of Science, commemorating its 100th anniversary. He described an incident at the Potsdam Conference wherein Churchill had remarked that the Pope would not be happy if the Communists took over the Catholic eastern portion of Poland.

This anecdote was not in the prepared text of the speech, which was used as a press release, and did not appear in the Public Papers of the Presidents text, which was taken from the press release, but the Truman Library states that this account is on an audio record in their possession.C. L. Sulzberger says in his memoirs that Truman told him this story and then added, "That is a true story. I was there." Sulzberger later asked James F. Byrnes, former secretary of state, about it. "Byrnes had heard it and had even mentioned it in his book. He said: 'It is a good story, but it is not true. I know it is not true because I was there.'"—Sulzberger, A Long Row of Candles, pp. 365-66 (1969). Not found in Byrnes's Speaking Frankly (1947, reprinted 1974). Byrnes served in Congress 1911-1925 and 1931-1941.

Catholicism

Catholic-baiting is the anti-Semitism of the liberals.

Peter Viereck, Shame and Glory of the Intellectuals, chapter 3, p. 45 (1953).

Catholicism

If a new edition of the Church Catechism is ever required, I should like to introduce a few words insisting on the duty of seeking all reasonable pleasure and avoiding all pain that can be honourably avoided.

Samuel Butler

Note-Books.

Catholicism

Neither in the confusion of paganism, nor in the defilement of heresy, nor yet in the blindness of Judaism, is religion to be sought, but among those alone who are called Catholic Christians.

St. Augustine

Catholicism

Neo-Catholicism on the one hand and Socialism on the other have brought France to stupidity. Between the Immaculate Conception and free lunches for working men, everything marches toward ruin.

Gustave Flaubert (1821-1880)

Letters, To George Sand, September 1868

Catholicism

No man can find salvations save in the Catholic Church. Outside the Catholic Church he can find everything save salvation.

St. Augustine

Sermo ad Caesariensis Ecclesiae Plehem, 6.

Catholicism

No more cunning plot was ever devised against the intelligence, the freedom, the happiness, and the virtue of mankind, than Catholicism.

William Ewart Gladstone (1809-1898)

Quoted in Noyes, Views of Religion

Catholicism

Roma locuta est, causa finita est. (Rome has spoken, the case is ended.)

St. Augustine

Sermons, Book I.

Catholicism

Salus extra ecclesiam non est. (There is no salvation outside the Church.)

St. Augustine

De Bapt., iv.

Catholicism

The Catholic priest, from the moment he becomes a priest, is a sworn officer of the pope.

Otto von Bismarck-Schoenhausen

Speech, Prussian Upper House, April 12, 1886.

Catholicism

The Pope may act outside the law, above the law, and against the law. (Papa potest extra jus, super jus et contra jus.)

St. Robert Bellarmine

De Summo Pontifice.

Catholicism

The Vatican is a dagger in the heart of Italy.

Giuseppe Garibaldi (1807-1882)

Quoted by Mussolini, 1929

Catholicism

Those who swallow their Deity, really and truly, in transubstantiation, can hardly find anything else otherwise than easy to digest.

Lord Byron

Letter to Thomas Moore, March 8, 1822.

Catholicism

To proclaim the Pope infallible was their compendious security against hostile state and churches, against human liberty and authority, against disintegrating tolerance and rationalizing science, against error and sin.

Lord Acton (John E. E. Dalberg)

The History of Freedom and Other Essays, Introduction to Il Principe.

The Vatican Council.

Catholicism

Whoever is separated from the Church is yoked with an adultress…. Who has not the Church for mother can no longer have God for father.

St. Cyprian (200-beheaded 258), Bishop of Carthage

On the Unity of the Catholic Church, vi, Sec. 21:19

Catholicism

[That faith is catholic] which has been believed always, everywhere, and by all.

St. Vincent of Lerins

Commonitorium, ch. 2

Cause

I assert that nothing ever comes to pass without a cause.

Jonathan Edwards

Caution

A conscientious man would be cautious how he dealt in blood.

Edmund Burke, letter to the Sheriffs of Bristol, April 3, 1777.—The Works of the Right Honorable Edmund Burke, vol. 2, p. 206 (1899).

Caution

All is to be feared where all is to be lost.

Byron

Caution

Caution in crediting, and reserve in speaking, and in revealing one's self to but very few, are the best securities both of a good understanding with the world, and of the inward peace of our own minds.

Thomas A. Kempis

Caution

He that is over-cautious will accomplish but very little.

Schiller

Caution

I don't like these cold, precise, perfect people, who, in order not to speak wrong, never speak at all, and in order not to do wrong, never do anything.

H. W. Beecher

Caution

It is well to learn caution by the misfortunes of others.

Publilius Syrus

Caution

Look before you leap; see before you go.

Tusser

Caution

More firm and sure the hand of courage strikes, when it obeys the watchful eye of caution.

Thomson

Caution

None pities him that's in the snare, who warned before, would not beware.

Herrick

Caution

Open your mouth and purse cautiously, and your stock of wealth and reputation shall, at least in repute, be great.

Zimmermann

Caution

Take warning by the misfortunes of others, that others may not take example from you.

Saadi

Caution

Things done well and with a care, exempt themselves from fear.

Shakespeare

Caution

Trust not him that hath once broken faith; he who betrayed thee once, will betray thee again.

Shakespeare

Caution

When clouds are seen wise men put on their cloaks.

Shakespeare

Caution

When using a needle you move your fingers delicately, and with a wise caution.—Use the same precaution with the inevitable dullness of life.—Give attention; keep yourself from imprudent precipitation; and do not take things by the point.

Rance

Caution

Whenever our neighbor's house is on fire, it cannot be amiss for the engines to play a little on our own. Better to be despised for too anxious apprehensions, than ruined by too confident security.

Burke

Censorship

Any test that turns on what is offensive to the community's standards is too loose, too capricious, too destructive of freedom of expression to be squared with the First Amendment. Under that test, juries can censor, suppress, and punish what they don't like, provided the matter relates to "sexual impurity" or has a tendency "to excite lustful thoughts." This is community censorship in one of its worst forms. It creates a regime where in the battle between the literati and the Philistines, the Philistines are certain to win.

Justice William O. Douglas, dissenting, Roth v. United States, 345 U.S. 512 (1957).

Censorship

Books won't stay banned. They won't burn. Ideas won't go to jail. In the long run of history, the censor and the inquisitor have always lost. The only sure weapon against bad ideas is better ideas. The source of better ideas is wisdom. The surest path to wisdom is a liberal education.

A. Whitney Griswold, president of Yale, "A Little Learning," The Atlantic Monthly, November 1952, p. 52. Address to students at Phillips Academy, Andover, New Hampshire, spring 1952.

Censorship

Every burned book enlightens the world.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Compensation

Censorship

I can imagine no greater disservice to the country than to establish a system of censorship that would deny to the people of a free republic like our own their indisputable right to criticise their own public officials. While exercising the great powers of the office I hold, I would regret in a crisis like the one through which we are now passing to lose the benefit of patriotic and intelligent criticism.

President Woodrow Wilson, letter to Arthur Brisbane, April 25, 1917.—Ray Stannard Baker, Woodrow Wilson, Life and Letters, vol. 6, p. 36 (1946).

Censorship

I thought the work would be very innocent, and one which might be confided to the reason of any man; not likely to be much read if let alone, but, if persecuted, it will be generally read. Every man in the United States will think it a duty to buy a copy, in vindication of his right to buy, and to read what he pleases.

Thomas Jefferson, letter to N. G. Dufief, April 19, 1814.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Andrew A. Lipscomb, vol. 14, p. 128 (1904).The letter concerned a new book by M. de Becourt, Sur la Creation du Monde, which was potentially controversial, as it discussed topics of both a religious and a philosophical nature.

Censorship

The vast number of titles which are published each year—all of them are to the good, even if some of them may annoy or even repel us for a time. For none of us would trade freedom of expression and of ideas for the narrowness of the public censor. America is a free market for people who have something to say, and need not fear to say it.

Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey, as reported by The New York Times, March 9, 1967, p. 42.Humphrey addressed the National Book Awards ceremony in New York City, March 8, 1967, where during his speech more than 50 people walked out to protest the U.S. role in Vietnam.

Censorship

False views, if supported by some evidence, do little harm, for everyone takes a salutary pleasure in proving their falseness; and when this is done, one path towards error is closed and the road to truth is often at the same time opened.

Charles Darwin

Censorship

Give me the liberty to know, to utter, and to argue freely according to conscience, above all liberties.

John Milton

Censorship

No member of a society has the right to teach any doctrine contrary to what the society holds to be true.

Samuel Johnson

Censorship

The books that the world calls immoral are the books that show the world its own shame.

Oscar Wilde

Censorship

The dirtiest book of all is the expurgated book.

Walt Whitman

Censorship

The only freedom deserving the name is that of pursuing our own good in our own way, so long as we do not attempt to deprive others of theirs….Mankind are greater gainers by suffering each other to live as seems good to themselves, than by compelling each to live as seems good to the rest.

John Stuart Mill

Censorship

There is no such thing as a moral or an immoral book. Books are well written or badly written.

Oscar Wilde

Censorship

To limit the press is to insult a nation; to prohibit reading of certain books is to declare the inhabitants to be either fools or slaves.

Claude Adrien Helvetius

Censorship

We can never be sure that the opinion we are endeavoring to stifle is a false opinion; and if we were sure, stifling it would be an evil still.

John Stuart Mill

Ceremony

All ceremonies are, in themselves, very silly things; but yet a man of the world should know them.—They are the outworks of manners and decency, which would too often be broken in upon, if it were not for that defence which keeps the enemy at a proper distance.

Earl of Chesterfield

Ceremony

Ceremonies differ in every country; they are only artificial helps which ignorance assumes to imitate politeness, which is the result of good sense and good nature.

Goldsmith

Ceremony

Ceremony is the invention of wise men to keep fools at a distance; as good breeding is an expedient to make fools and wise men equals.

Steele

Ceremony

Ceremony resembles that base coin which circulates through a country by royal mandate; it serves every purpose of real money at home, but is entirely useless if carried abroad.—A person who should attempt to circulate his native trash in another country would be thought either ridiculous or culpable.

Goldsmith

Ceremony

Ceremony was devised at first to set a gloss on faint deeds, hollow welcomes, and recanting goodness; but where there is true friendship, there needs none.

Shakespeare

Ceremony

If we use no ceremony toward others, we shall be treated without any.—People are soon tired of paying trifling attentions to those who receive them with coldness, and return them with neglect.

Hazlitt

Ceremony

The ceremonies you have seen today are ancient and some of their origins are veiled in the mists of the past, but their spirit and their meaning shine through the ages, never, perhaps, more brightly than now.

Elizabeth II

Ceremony

To dispense with ceremony is the most delicate mode of conferring a compliment.

Bulwer

Ceremony

To divest either politics or religion of ceremony, is the most certain method of bringing either into contempt.—The weak must have their inducements to admiration as well as the wise; and it is the business of a sensible government to impress all ranks with a sense of subordination, whether this be effected by a diamond buckle, a virtuous edict, a sumptuary law, or a glass

necklace.

Goldsmith

Ceremony

To repose our confidence in forms and ceremonies, is superstition; but not to submit to them is pride or self-conceit.

Pascal

Certainty

If a man will begin with certainties, he will end in doubts; but if he will be content to begin with doubts, he will end in certainties.

Francis Bacon

Advancement of Learning.

Certainty

There is no such uncertainty as a sure thing.

Attributed to Robert Burns. Unverified.

Chance

Chance is but the pseudonym of God for those particular cases which he does not choose to subscribe openly with his own sign-manual.

Coleridge

Chance

What can be more foolish than to think that all this rare fabric of heaven and earth could come by chance, when all the skill of art is not able to make an oyster!

Jeremy Taylor

Chance

Be not too presumptuously sure in any business; for things of this world depend on such a train of unseen chances that if it were in man's hands to set the tables, still he would not be certain to win the game.

Herbert

Chance

By the word chance we merely express our ignorance of the cause of any fact or effect—not that we think that chance was itself the cause.

Henry Fergus

Chance

Chance generally favors the prudent.

Joubert

Chance

Chance is a word void of sense; nothing can exist without a cause.

Voltaire

Chance

Chance is always powerful.—Let your hook be always cast; in the pool where you least expect it, there will be a fish.

Ovid

Chance

Chance is the pseudonym of God when he did not want to sign.

(Le hasard, c'est peut-être le pseudonyme de Dieu, quant il ne veut pas signer.)

Théophile Gautier.

—Théophile Gautier, Jules Sandeau, Mme. de Girardin,

and Méry, La Croix de Berny, p. 29 (1895).

The four authors used pseudonyms

to write the letters which compose the book.

Gautier wrote the letters signed Edgard de Meilhan.

Chance

Chance never writ a legible book; never built a fair house; never drew a neat picture; never did any of these things, nor ever will; nor can it, without absurdity, be supposed to do them, which are yet works very gross and rude, and very easy and feasible, as it were, in comparison to the production of a flower or a tree.

Isaac Barrow

Chance

He who distrusts the security of chance takes more pains to effect the safety which results from labor. To find what you seek in the road of life, the best proverb of all is that which says: "Leave no stone unturned."

Bulwer

Chance

How often events, by chance, and unexpectedly, come to pass, which you had not dared even to hope for!

Terence

Chance

In the fields of observation chance favors only those minds which are prepared.

Louis Pasteur, inaugural lecture as professor and dean of the faculty of science, University of Lille, Douai, France, December 7, 1854.—A Treasury of the World's Great Speeches, ed. Houston Peterson, p. 473 (1954).

Chance

Many shining actions owe their success to chance, though the general or statesman runs away with the applause.

Homer

Chance

Objects which are usually the motives of our travels by land and by sea are often overlooked and neglected if they lie under our eye….We put off from time to time going and seeing what we know we have an opportunity of seeing when we please.

Pliny the Younger

Letters, VIII, 20

Chance

The doctrine of chances is the bible of the fool. There is no doubt such a thing as chance; but I see no reason why Providence should not make use of it.

Simms

Chance

The mines of knowledge are often laid bare by the hazel-wand of chance.

Tupper

Chance

There is no such thing as chance or accident, the words merely signify our ignorance of some real and immediate cause.

Adam Clarke

Chance

There is no such thing as chance; and what seems to us the merest accident springs from the deepest source of destiny.

Schiller

Chance

While we stop to think, we often miss our opportunity.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 185

Change

….Change is the nursery

Of musicke, joy, life and eternity.

John Donne (1573-1631)

"Change, an Elegy" (c. 1593-98)

Change

Change alone is eternal, perpetual, immortal.

Attributed to Arthur Schopenhauer. Unverified.

Change

Change starts when someone sees the next step.

William Drayton

Change

Everything is in a state of change. Thou, thyself art in everlasting change and in corruption to correspond, so is the whole universe.

Marcus Aurelius

Change

Few will have the greatness to bend history itself; but each of us can work to change a small portion of events, and in the total of all those acts will be written the history of this generation.

Senator Robert F. Kennedy, "Day of Affirmation," address delivered at the University of Capetown, South Africa, June 6, 1966.—Congressional Record, June 6, 1966, vol. 112, p. 12430.

Change

He who rejects change is the architect of decay. The only human institution which rejects progress is the cemetery.

Prime Minister Harold Wilson, speech to the Consultative Assembly of the Council of Europe, Strasbourg, France, January 23, 1967.—Text, The New York Times, January 24, 1967, p. 12.

Change

I am not an advocate for frequent changes in laws and Constitutions. But laws and institutions must go hand in hand with the progress of the human mind. As that becomes more developed, more enlightened, as new discoveries are made, new truths discovered and manners and opinions change, with the change of circumstances, institutions must advance also to keep pace with the times. We might as well require a man to wear still the coat which fitted him when a boy as civilized society to remain ever under the regimen of their barbarous ancestors.

Thomas Jefferson, letter to Samuel Kercheval, July 12, 1816.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Paul L. Ford, vol. 10, pp. 42-43 (1899).Inscription on the southeast quadrant of the Jefferson Memorial, Washington, D.C. The inscription omits some words without ellipses.

Change

I am not what I was in the reign of the good Cinara. Forbear, cruel mother of sweet loves.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Odes, IV, i, 3

Change

If a great change is to be made in human affairs, the minds of men will be fitted to it; the general opinions and feelings will draw that way. Every fear and hope will forward it; and they who persist in opposing this mighty current will appear rather to resist the decrees of Providence itself, than the mere designs of men.—They will not be so much resolute and firm as perverse and obstinate.

Burke

Change

In a progressive country change is constant;…change….Is inevitable.

Benjamin Disraeli, speech on Reform Bill of 1867, Edinburgh, Scotland, October 29, 1867.—Selected Speeches of the Late Right Honourable the Earl of Beaconsfield, ed. T. E. Kebbel, vol. 2, part 4, p. 487 (1882).

Change

In this world of change naught which comes stays, and naught which goes is lost.

Madame Swetchine

Change

It is a bad plan that admits of no modification.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 469

Change

It is easy to go down into Hell; night and day, the gate of dark Death stand wide; but to climb back again, to retrace one's steps to the upper air—there's the rub, the task.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aeneid, VI, 126

Change

It is not strange that even our loves should change with our fortunes.

Shakespeare

Change

It is the first step in sociological wisdom, to recognize that the major advances in civilization are processes which all but wreck the societies in which they occur:—like unto an arrow in the hand of a child. The art of free society consists first in the maintenance of the symbolic code; and secondly in fearlessness of revision, to secure that the code serves those purposes which satisfy an enlightened reason. Those societies which cannot combine reverence to their symbols with freedom of revision, must ultimately decay either from anarchy, or from the slow atrophy of a life stifled by useless shadows.

Alfred North Whitehead, Symbolism, Its Meaning and Effect, chapter 3, p. 88 (1927). This paragraph ends the book.

Change

It was a wine jar when the molding began: as the wheel runs round why does it turn out a water pitcher?

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Epistles, III, 21

Change

Look abroad thro' Nature's range.

Nature's mighty law is change.

Robert Burns

Let Not Women E'er Complain.

Change

Never change when love has found its home.

Sextus Aurelius Propertius

Elegies, I, i, 36

Change

Perfection is immutable, but for things imperfect, to change is the way to perfect them.—Constancy without knowledge cannot be always good; and in things ill, it is not virtue but an absolute vice.

Feltham

Change

Remember the wheel of Providence is always in motion; and the spoke that is uppermost will be under; and therefore mix trembling always with your joy.

Philip Henry

Change

The circumstances of the world are so variable, that an irrevocable purpose or opinion is almost synonymous with a foolish one.

William H. Seward

Change

The flow of the river is ceaseless and its water is never the same. The bubbles that float in the pools, now vanishing, now forming, are not of long duration: so in the world are man and his dwellings…. [People] die in the morning, they are born in the evening, like foam on the water.

Kamo No Chomei

Hojoki (An Account of My Hut)

Change

The more the change the more it is the same thing.

Alphonse Karr

Change

The older order changeth, yielding place to new,

And God fulfils himself in many ways,

Lest one good custom should corrupt the world.

Alfred, Lord Tennyson, "Idylls of the King," line 408, The Poetic and Dramatic Works of Alfred Lord Tennyson, p. 574 (1899).

Change

The philosophers have only interpreted the world; the thing, however, is to change it.

Karl Marx

Change

The times change and we change with them.

Lothair

From Owen's Epigrammata

Change

The world is a scene of changes; to be constant in nature were inconstancy.

Cowley

Change

There is a certain relief in change, even though it be from bad to worse! As I have often found in travelling in a stagecoach, that it is often a comfort to shift one's position, and be bruised in a new place.

Washington Irving (Geoffrey Crayon, pseud.), Tales of a Traveller, Preface, p. 7 (1825? reprinted 1972).

Change

There is a certain relief in change, even though it be from bad to worse; as I have found in travelling in a stagecoach, that is often comfort to shift one's position and be bruised in a new place.

Daniel Webster

Change

To change thy mind and to follow him that sets thee right is to be none the less the free agent that thou wast before.

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

Meditations, VIII, 16

Change

Today is not yesterday.—We ourselves change.—How then, can our works and thoughts, if they are always to be the fittest, continue always the same.—Change, indeed, is painful, yet ever needful; and if memory have its force and worth, so also has hope.

Carlyle

Change

We must all obey the great law of change. It is the most powerful law of nature.

Edmund Burke

Change

Weep not that the world changes—did it keep a stable, changeless state, it were cause indeed to weep.

William Cullen Bryant

Change

What I possess I would gladly retain.—Change amuses the mind, yet scarcely profits.

Goethe

Change

When it is not necessary to change, it is necessary not to change.

Lucius Cary, Viscount Falkland,

"A Speech Concerning Episcopacy," delivered in 1641.

—Falkland, A Discourse of Infallibility, p. 3 (1660).

While the exact date and audience of this speech are uncertain,

the speech is known to deal with the Root and Branch Petition,

which proposed doing away with bishops in the church

(the episcopal system). Some historians consider this issue as the

beginning of the definition of parties in Parliament.

—J. A. R. Marriott, The Life and Times of Lucius Cary,

Viscount Falkland, pp. 179-80 (1907).

Change

Where they [the cultures of Asia and the continent of Africa] resemble each other, however, is that in all cases, it is the Western impact which has stirred up the winds of change and set the processes of modernization in motion. Education brought not only the idea of equality but also another belief which we used to take for granted in the West—the idea of progress, the idea that science and technology can be used to better human conditions. In ancient society, men tended to believe themselves fortunate if tomorrow was not worse than today and anyway, there was little they could do about it. The idea, the revolutionary idea, that tomorrow might be better and that man can do something about it is entirely Western—and all around the world it inspires what Mr. Adlai Stevenson has called "the revolution of rising expectations." If a man has lived in a tradition which tells him that nothing can be done about his human condition, to believe that progress is possible may well be the greatest revolution of all.

Barbara Ward, lecture, State University of Iowa, Iowa City, April 6, 1961.—Ward, The Unity of the Free World, p. 12 (1961).

Character

I have been faithful to thee, Cynara! in my fashion.

Ernest Dowson (1867-1900)

"Non sum qualis eram bonae sub regno Cynarae"

Character

A good heart, benevolent feelings, and a balanced mind, lie at the foundation of character. Other things may be deemed fortuitous; they may come and go; but character is that which lives and abides, and is admired long after its possessor has left the earth.

John Todd

Character

A man may be outwardly successful all his life long, and die hollow and worthless as a puff-ball; and he may be externally defeated all his life long, and die in the royalty of a kingdom established within him.—A man's true estate of power and riches, is to be in himself; not in his dwelling, or position, or external relations, but in his own essential character.—That is the realm in which he is to live, if he is to live as a Christian man.

H. W. Beecher

Character

A man should be upright, not be kept upright.

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

Meditations, III, 5

Character

A man should not allow himself to hate even his enemies; because if you indulge this passion on some occasion; it will rise of itself on others. If you hate your enemies; you will contract such a vicious habit of mind as by degrees will break out upon those who are your friends; or those who are indifferent to you.

Plutarch

Character

A man's character is the reality of himself.—His reputation is the opinion othes have formed of him.—Character is in him;—reputation is from other people; that is the substance, this is the shadow.

H. W. Beecher

Character

A Persian carpet or piece of Sheraton makes a distinguished end and bears itself with dignity to the last—as aristocrats before the guillotine. But a Brussels or bit of mid-Victorian will be found to grovel, show its unlovely wounds and scream for pity.

Eden Phillpotts

Character

A tree will not only lie as it falls but it will fall as it leans.

J. J. Gurney

Character

Actions, looks, words, steps, form the alphabet by which you may spell characters: some are mere letters, some contain entire words, lines, or pages, which at once decipher the life of a man. One such genuine uninterrupted page may be your key to all the rest; but first be certain that he wrote it all alone, and without thinking of publisher or reader.

Lavater

Character

Adopt the character of the twisting octopus, which takes on the appearance of the nearby rock. Now follow in this direction, now turn a different hue.

Theognis

Elegies, 215

Character

An aristocrat in morals as in mind.

Owen Wister, describing Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes.—Wister, Roosevelt: The Story of a Friendship, p. 130 (1930).

Character

As the sun is best seen at his rising and setting, so men's native dispositions are clearest seen when they are children, and when they are dying.

Boyle

Character

As there is much beast and some devil in man, so is there some angel and some God in him. The beast and the devil may be conquered, but in this life never destroyed.

Coleridge

Character

As they, who for every slight infirmity take physic to repair their health, do rather impair it; so they, who for every trifle are eager to vindicate their character, do rather weaken it.

J. Mason

Character

Authority and place demonstrate and try the tempers of men, by moving every passion and discovering every frailty.

Plutarch

Lives, Demosthenes and Cicero, sec. 3

Character

Be the kind of person you would like to be with.

Author Unknown

Character

Beloved Pan, and all ye other gods who haunt this place, give me beauty in the inward soul; and may the outward and inward man be at one. May I reckon the wise to be the wealthy, and may I have such a quantity of gold as none but the temperate can carry.

Plato

Dialogues, Phaedrus, 279

Character

Blot out vain pomp; check impulse; quench appetite; keep reason under its own control.

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

Meditations, IX, 7

Character

By nothing do men show their character more than by the things they laugh at.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Character

Character and Personality are the only investments worth anything.

Walt Whitman

Character

Character building begins in our infancy and continues until death.

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt

Character

Character is a diamond that scratches every other stone.

Bartol

Character

Character is a man's guiding destiny.

Heraclitus

Fragment 119

Character

Character is built out of circumstances.—From exactly the same materials one man builds palaces, while another builds hovels.

G. H. Lewis

Character

Character is destiny.

Heraclitus

Character

Character is higher than intellect…. A great soul will be strong to live as well to think.

Emerson

Character

Character is like a tree, and reputation like its shadow. The shadow is what we think of it, the tree is the real thing.

Abraham Lincoln

Character

Character is perfectly educated will.

Novalis

Character

Character is the result of two things: mental attitude and the way we spend our time.

Elbert Hubbard

Character

Character is what you are in the dark.

Attributed to Dwight L. Moody by his son,

William R. Moody, D. L. Moody, chapter 66, p. 503 (1930).

Although both The Macmillan Book of Proverbs, Maxims, and Famous Phrases, ed. Burton Stevenson, p. 317 (1948, reprinted 1965), and The World Treasury of Religious Quotations, ed. Ralph L. Woods, p. 108 (1966), state that this quotation came from his sermons, Moody scholars have not found it there.

Character

Character is what you are in the dark.

Dwight L. Moody

Character

Character must stand behind and back up everything—the sermon, the poem, the picture, the play. None of them is worth a straw without it.

J. G. Holland

Character

Characters do not change.—Opinions alter, but characters are only developed.

Disraeli

Character

Do what you know and perception is converted into character.

Emerson

Character

Don't say things. What you are stands over you the while, and thunders so that I cannot hear what you say to the contrary.

Ralph Waldo Emerson, "Social Aims," Letters and Social Aims (vol. 8 of The Complete Works of Ralph Waldo Emerson), p. 96 (1917).Based on a lecture delivered in Boston, Massachusetts, December 4, 1864.

Character

Even polished brass will pass upon more people than rough gold.

Earl of Chesterfield

Character

Every man has three characters—that which he exhibits, that which he has, and that which he thinks he has.

Alphonse Karr

Character

Every man has, at times, in his mind the ideal of what he should be, but is not. In all men that seek to improve, it is better than the actual character. No one is satisfied with himself that he never wishes to be wiser, better and more holy.

Theodore Parker

Character

Give us a character on which we can thoroughly depend, which we know to be based on principle and on the fear of God, and it is wonderful how many brilliant and popular and splendid qualities we can safely and gladly dispense with.

A. P. Stanley

Character

Good character is human nature in its best form.—It is moral order embodied in the individual.—Men of character are not only the conscience of society, but in every well governed state they are its best motive power; for it is moral qualities which, in the main, rule the world.

Samuel Smiles

Character

He that will live in this world must be endowed with three rare qualities of dissimulation, equivocation, and mental reservation.

Aphra Behn

Character

He who is false to present duty breaks a thread in the loom, and will find the flaw when he may have forgotten the cause.

Henry Ward Beecher

Character

His heart was as great as the world, but there was no room in it to hold the memory of a wrong.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Character

I would like to see a state of society in which every man and woman preferred the old Scottish Sunday to the modern French one. We should then find solid and eternal foundations of character and self-command.

Ramsey MacDonald

Character

I would rather be adorned by beauty of character than by jewels. Jewels are the gift of fortune, while character comes from within.

Plautus

Poenulus

Character

I would rather be right than be president.

Henry Clay

Character

If I take care of my character, my reputation will take care of itself.

Dwight L. Moody

Character

If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue, or walk with kings—nor lose the common touch, if neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you, if all men count with you, but none too much: if you can fill the unforgiving minute with sixty seconds' worth of distance run, yours is the earth and everything that's in it, and—which is more—you'll be a man, my son.

Kipling

Character

In men of the highest character and noblest genius there generally exists insatiable desire of honor, command, power and glory.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

De Officiis, bk. 1.

Character

In the destiny of every moral being there is an object more worthy of God than happiness.—It is character.—And the grand aim of man's creation is the development of a grand character—and grand character is, by its very nature, the product of probationary discipline.

Austin Phelps

Character

It is not difficult to get away into retirement; and there live upon your own convictions; nor is it difficult to mix with men and follow their convictions; but to enter into the world; and there live firmly and fearlessly according to your own conscience; that is Christian greatness.

Author Unknown

Character

It is not money, nor is it mere intellect, that governs the world; it is moral character, and intellect associated with moral excellence.

T. D. Woolsey

Character

It is quality rather than quantity that matters.

Seneca

Character

It is well for the world that in most of us, by the age of thirty, the character has set like plaster, and will never soften again.

William James

Character

It was the boast of Augustus that he found Rome of brick and left it of marble. But how much nobler will be the sovereign's boast when he shall have it to say that he found law dear and left it cheap; found it a sealed book and left it a living letter; found it the patrimony of the rich and left it the inheritance of the poor; found it the two-edged sword of craft and oppression and left it the staff of honesty and the shield of innocence.

Henry Peter Brougham

Quoted, Nieman Reports, April, 1956.

Character

Let us not say, "Every man is the architect of his own fortune"; but let us say, "Every man is the architect of his own character".

G. D. Boardman

Character

Make but few explanations. The character that cannot defend itself is not worth vindicating.

F. W. Robertson

Character

Men best show their character in trifles, where they are not on their guard.—It is in insignificant matters, and in the simplest habits, that we often see the boundless egotism which pays no regard to the feelings of others, and denies nothing to itself.

Schopenhauer

Character

Men show their character in nothing more clearly than what they think laughable.

Goethe

Character

Most people are other people. Their thoughts are someone else's opinions, their lives a mimicry, their passions a quotation.

Oscar Wilde

Character

No amount of ability is of the slightest avail without honor.

Andrew Carnegie

Character

No change of circumstances can repair a defect of character. We boast our emancipation from many superstitions; but if we have broken any idols, it is through a transfer of the idolatry. What have I gained, that I no longer immolate a bull to Jove or to Neptune, or a mouse to Hecate; that I do not tremble before the Eumenides, or the Catholic Purgatory, or the Calvanistic Judgment-day—if I quake at opinion, the public opinion…

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Essays: Second Series (1844)

Character

No more fatal error can be cherished than that any character can be complete without the religious element. The essential factors in character building are religion, morality, and knowledge.

J. L. Pickard

Character

Not education, but character, is man's greatest need and man's greatest safeguard.

Spencer

Character

Nothing can work me damage, except myself.—The harm that I sustain I carry about me, and never am a real sufferer but by my own fault.

St. Bernard

Character

Of all the properties which belong to honorable men, not one is so highly prized as that of character.

Henry Clay.—The Clay Code, or Text-Book of Eloquence, a Collection of Axioms, Apothegms, Sentiments….Gathered from the Public Speeches of Henry Clay, ed. G. Vandenhoff, p. 93 (1844).Clay served in the House of Representatives 1811-1814, 1815-1821, and 1823-1825; he was Speaker every year except 1821. He was a senator 1806-1807, 1810-1811, 1831-1842, and 1849-1852.

Character

One can acquire everything in solitude—except character.

Henry Beyle

Character

Only what we have wrought into our character during life can we take away with us.

Humboldt

Character

Our character is but the stamp on our souls of the free choices of good and evil we have made through life.

Geikie

Character

Our great and most difficult duty; as social beings; is…open our minds to the thoughts and persuasions of others; and yet to hold fast the sacred right of private judgment; to receive impulses from our fellow beings; and yet to act from our own souls; to sympathize with others and yet to determine our own feelings; to act with others; and yet to follow our own conscience; to unite social deference and self-dominion.

William Ellery Channing

Character

Reading makes a full man; conversation a ready man; and writing an exact man.

Francis Bacon

Character

Roland is valorous and Oliver is wise.

Song of Roland

La Chanson de Roland, l. 1093

Character

Should one tell you that a mountain had changed its place, you are at liberty to doubt it; but if any one tells you that a man has changed his character, do not believe it.

Mahomet

Character

Talents are best nurtured in solitude; character is best formed in the stormy billows of the world.

Goethe

Character

Taste and habits change progressively. In the old days the lady with a past repented and died; today she repents and lives happily every after.

Daniel Frohman

Character

The best characters are made by vigorous and persistent resistance to evil tendencies; whose amiability has been built upon the ruins of ill-temper, and whose generosity springs from an over-mastered and transformed selfishness. Such a character, built up in the presence of enemies, has far more attraction than one which is natively pleasing.

Dexter

Character

The character is like white paper; if once blotted, it can hardly ever be made to appear white as before.

J. Hawes

Character

The character that needs law to mend it, is hardly worth the tinkering.

Jerrold

Character

The discipline of desire is the background of character.

John Locke

Character

The Duc de Chartres used to say that no man could less value character than himself, and yet he would gladly give twenty thousand pounds for a good character, because, he could, at once, make double that sum by it.

Colton

Character

The great hope of society is in individual character.

Channing

Character

The happiness of every country depends upon the character of its people, rather than the form of its government.

Thomas Chandler Haliburton

Character

The harder you throw down a football and a good character, the higher they rebound; but a thrown reputation is like an egg.

Austin O'Malley

Character

The measure of a man's real character is what he would do if he knew he never would be found out.

Thomas Babington Macaulay

Character

The miracle, or the power, that elevates the few is to be found in their industry, application, and perseverance under the promptings of a brave, determined spirit.

Mark Twain

Character

The most important thing for a young man is to establish a credit—a reputation, character.

John D. Rockefeller

Character

The noblest contribution which any man can make for the benefit of posterity, is that of a good character. The richest bequest which any man can leave to the youth of his native land, is that of a shining, spotless example.

R. C. Winthrop

Character

The reward for being true to a correct principle is worth whatever it costs, and often the greatest reward is the character development in the person who remains true.

Author Unknown

Character

The spirit of self-help is the root of all genuine growth in the individual; and; exhibited in the lives of many; it constitutes the true source of national vigor and strength. Help from without is often enfeebling in its effects; but help from within invariably invigorates.

Samuel Smiles

Character

There is a broad distinction between character and reputation, for one may be destroyed by slander, while the other can never be harmed save by its possessor. Reputation is in no man's keeping. You and I cannot determine what other men shall think and say about us. We can only determine what they ought to think of us and say about us.

J. G. Holland

Character

There is no single royal road to character—a variety of routes will always need to be used. The development of right character in youth is too important to risk disregarding any promising line of attack.

Frank Cody

Character

There is not a man or woman, however poor they may be, but have it in their power, by the grace of God, to leave behind them the grandest thing on earth, character; and their children might rise up after them and thank God that their mother was a pious woman, or their father a pious man.

N. Macleod

Character

They love him, gentlemen, and they respect him, not only for himself, but for his character, for his integrity and judgment and iron will; but they love him most for the enemies he has made.

Edward (Stuyvesant) Bragg

Speech seconding Cleveland for President, 1884.

Character

To be worth anything, character must be capable of standing firm upon its feet in the world of daily work, temptation, and trial; and able to bear the wear and tear of actual life. Cloistered virtues do not count for much.

Samuel Smiles

Character

To enjoy the things we ought and to hate the things we ought has the greatest bearing on excellence of character.

Aristotle

Nicomachean Ethics, X, 1

Character

To judge human character rightly a man may sometimes have very small experience provided he has a very large heart.

Bulwer

Character

True glory lies in noble deeds.

Cicero

Character

Truthfulness is a corner-stone in character, and if it be not firmly laid in youth, there will ever after be a weak spot in the foundation.

J. Davis

Character

We are made strong by the difficulties we face not by those we evade.

Author Unknown

Character

We shall never wander from Christ while we make character the end and aim of all our intellectual discipline; and we shall never misconceive character while we hold fast to Christ, and keep him first in our motto and our hearts.

S. F. Scovel

Character

We want the spirit of America to be efficient; we want American character to display itself in what I may, perhaps, be allowed to call spiritual efficiency—clear disinterested thinking and fearless action along the right lines of thought.

Woodrow Wilson

Character

What others say of me matters little, what I myself say and do matters much.

Elbert Hubbard

Character

Whatever you would make habitual, practice it; and if you would not make a thing habitual, do not practice it, but accustom yourself to something else.

Epictetus

Discourses, II, 18

Character

When the late J.P. Morgan was asked what he considered the best bank collateral, he replied, "Character."

Ramsey MacDonald

Character

When we see men of worth, we should think of equaling them; when we see men of a contrary character, we should turn inwards and examine ourselves.

Confucius

Character

When you die; all that you have will go to another; all that you are will be yours forever.

Author Unknown

Character

Where there is charity and wisdom, there is neither fear nor ignorance. Where there is patience and humility, there is neither anger nor vexation. Where there is poverty and joy, there is neither greed nor avarice. Where there is peace and meditation, there is neither anxiety nor doubt.

St. Francis of Assisi

The Counsels of the Holy Father St. Francis. Admonition 27

Character

Without an acquaintance with the rules of propriety, it is impossible to be a superior man.

Confucius

Character

You can prevent a man from robbing you, but you can't stop him from being a thief.

Napoleon Bonaparte

Character

You can tell the character of every man when you see how he receives praise.

Lucius Annaeus Seneca

Epistles, 52, 12

Character

You can tell the character of every man when you see how he receives praise.

Seneca

Character

You cannot dream yourself into a character; you must hammer and forge one for yourself.

Froude

Character

You will always have to live with yourself, and it is to your best interest to see that you have good company—a clean, pure, straight, honest, upright, generous, magnanimous companion.

Orison Swett Marden

Charity

A man there was and they called him mad; the more he gave the more he had.

John Bunyan

Charity

Anticipate charity by preventing poverty; assist the reduced fellowman, either by a considerable gift, or a sum of money, or by teaching him a trade, or by putting him in the way of businesses, so that he may earn an honest livelihood, and not be forced to the dreadful alternative of holding out his hand for charity. This is the highest step and the summit of charity's golden ladder.

MosesBen Maimon [Maimonides]

Charity's Eight Degrees

Charity

Behold, I do not give lectures or a bit of charity, when I give of myself.

Walt Whitman

Song of Myself

Charity

But how shall we expect charity towards others, when we are uncharitable to ourselves? Charity begins at home, is the voice of the world; yet is every man his greatest enemy, and, as it were, his own executioner.

Sir Thomas Browne

Religio Medici, II, 4

Charity

Charity should begin at home; but it should not stay there.

Phillips Brooks

Charity

Every charitable act is a stepping stone toward heaven.

Henry Ward Beecher

Charity

Flatter not thyself in thy faith in God if thou hast not charity for thy neighbor.

Francis Quarles

Charity

He who bestows his goods upon the poor,

Shall have as much again, and ten times more.

John Bunyan

Pilgrim's Progress

Charity

He who helps in the saving of others,

Saves himself as well.

Hartmann Von Aue

Poor Henry

Charity

I am not in the giving vein today.

William Shakespeare

King Richard III, IV, ii, 115

Charity

In nothing do men more nearly approach the gods than in doing good to their fellow men.

Cicero

Pro Ligario

Charity

One must be poor to know the luxury of giving.

George Eliot

Charity

Preferring to store her money in the stomachs of the needy rather than hide it in a purse.

St. Jerome

Charity

The bread that you store up belongs to the hungry; the cloak that lies in your chest belongs to the naked; and the gold that you have hidden in the ground belongs to the poor.

St. Basil

Homilies.

Charity

The desire of power in excess caused angels to fall; the desire of knowledge in excess caused man to fall; but in charity is no excess, neither can man or angels come into danger by it.

Francis Bacon

Essays. Of Goodness.

Charity

We should be lenient in our judgment, because often the mistakes of others would have been ours had we had the opportunity to make them.

Dr. Alsaker

Charity

When it comes to giving, some people stop at nothing.

Author Unknown

Chastity

To educate a man in mind and not in morals is to educate a menace to society.

Theodore Roosevelt

Cheating

It is impossible for a man to be cheated by anyone but himself.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Cheating

Doubtless the pleasure is as great

Of being cheated as to cheat.

Samuel Butler

Hudibras, II, III, 1

Cheerfulness

A cheerful face is nearly as good for an invalid as healthy weather.

Benjamin Franklin

Cheerfulness

A cheerful man is one who can present a smiling face to every turn of fortune; not one whose radiance is skin-deep and disappears when shares are down or dinner is a trifle late.

Leigh Smith

Cheerfulness

Cheerfulness is an excellent wearing quality. It has been called the bright weather of the heart. It gives harmony of soul and is a perpetual song without words. It is tantamount to repose. It enables nature to recruit its strength.

Samuel Smiles

Cheerfulness

Cheerfulness of disposition is a great source of enjoyment of life, and it is also a great safeguard of character. It furnishes the best soil for the growth of goodness and virtue. It gives brightness to heart and elasticity of spirit. It is the companion of charity, the nurse of patience, the mother of wisdom. It is also the best of moral and mental tonics.

Samuel Smiles

Cheerfulness

The path to cheerfulness is to sit cheerfully and to act and speak as if cheerfulness were already there.

William James

Babies/Children/Childhood

A grievous burden was thy birth to me;

Tetchy and wayward was thy infancy.

William Shakespeare

King Richard III, IV, iv, 168

Babies/Children/Childhood

'Tis education forms the common mind:

Just as the twig is bent, the tree's inclined.

Alexander Pope

Babies/Children/Childhood

A child of our grandmother Eve, a female; or, for thy more sweet understanding, a woman.

William Shakespeare

Love's Labour's Lost, I, i, 263

Babies/Children/Childhood

A son of my own! Oh, no, no, no! Let my flesh perish with me, and let me not transmit to anyone the boredom and the ignominiousness of life.

Gustave Flaubert

Babies/Children/Childhood

All children are essentially criminal.

Denis Diderot

Babies/Children/Childhood

As the twig is bent the tree inclines.

Virgil

Babies/Children/Childhood

Before I got married I had six theories about bringing up children; now I have six children and no theories.

John Wilmot, Earl of Rochester

Babies/Children/Childhood

Children enjoy the present because they have neither a past nor a future.

Jean de la Bruyere

Babies/Children/Childhood

Give me the children until they are seven and anyone may have them afterwards.

Saint Francis Xavier

Babies/Children/Childhood

In every real man a child is hidden that wants to play.

Friedrich Nietzsche

Babies/Children/Childhood

Men ne'er spend their fury on a child.

William Shakespeare

King Henry VI, III, V, v, 57

Babies/Children/Childhood

The fault no child ever loses is the one he was most punished for.

Cesare Beccaria

Babies/Children/Childhood

The weakness of little children's limbs is innocent, not their souls.

St. Augustine

Confessions, I, 7

Babies/Children/Childhood

When asked why he did not become a father, Thales answered, "Because I am fond of children."

Diogenes Laertius

Babies/Children/Childhood

You are to have as strict a guard upon yourself amongst your children, as if you were amongst your enemies.

Lord Halifax

Babies/Children/Childhood

You can do anything with children if you only play with them.

Prince Otto von Bismarck

Babies/Children/Childhood

You ought not to practice childish ways, since you are no longer that age.

Homer

The Odyssey, I, 296

Babies/Children/Childhood

All children are by nature children of wrath, and are in danger of eternal damnation in hell.

Jonathan Edwards (1703-1758)

Sermon to Children (1740)

Babies/Children/Childhood

Children begin by loving their parents. After a time they judge them. Rarely, if ever, do they forgive them.

Oscar Wilde, A Woman of No Importance, act II, in The Complete Works of Oscar Wilde, vol. 7, p. 249 (1923). Lord Illingworth is speaking.

Babies/Children/Childhood

Children have never been good at listening to their elders, but they have never failed to imitate them.

James Baldwin

Babies/Children/Childhood

For rarely are sons similar to their fathers: most are worse, and a few are better than their fathers.

Homer

The Odyssey, II, 276

Babies/Children/Childhood

Give me a child for the first seven years, and you may do what you like with him afterwards.

Author unknown.—Vincent Stuckey Lean, Lean's Collectanea, vol. 3, p. 472 (1903). This source states the quotation is a Jesuit maxim. Unverified.

Babies/Children/Childhood

Give us the child for 8 years and it will be a Bolshevik forever.

Attributed to Vladimir Ilich Lenin.—100 Things You Should Know About Communism, prepared by the Committee on Un-American Activities, U.S. House of Representatives, pp. 46, 48 (1951). House Doc. 82-136. Unverified.

Babies/Children/Childhood

I have found the best way to give advice to your children is to find out what they want and then advise them to do it.

Harry S. Truman, television interview on "Person to Person," with Margaret Truman as interviewer, May 27, 1955, as reported by The New York Times, May 28, 1955, p. 33.

Babies/Children/Childhood

If we had paid no more attention to our plants, than we have to our children, we should now be living in a jungle of weeds.

Luther Burbank

Babies/Children/Childhood

Item: And first, I give to good fathers and mothers, but in trust for their children, nevertheless, all good little words of praise and all quaint pet names, and I charge said parents to use them justly, but generously, as the needs of their children shall require.

Item: I leave to children exclusively, but only for the life of their childhood, all and every the dandelions of the fields and the daisies thereof, with the right to play among them freely, according to the custom of children, warning them at the same time against the thistles. And I devise to children the yellow shores of creeks and the golden sands beneath the waters thereof, with the dragon-flies that skim the surface of said waters, and the odors of the willows that dip into said waters, and the white clouds that float high over the giant trees.

And I leave to children the long, long days to be merry in, in a thousand ways, and the Night and the Moon and the train of the Milky Way to wonder at, but subject, nevertheless, to the rights hereinafter given to lovers; and I give to each child the right to choose a star that shall be his, and I direct that the child's father shall tell him the name of it, in order that the child shall always remember the name of that star after he has learned and forgotten astronomy.

Item: I devise to boys jointly all the useful idle fields and commons where ball may be played, and all snow-clad hills where one may coast, and all streams and ponds where one may skate, to have and to hold the same for the period of their boyhood. And all meadows, with the clover blooms and butterflies thereof; and all woods, with their appurtenances of squirrels and whirring birds and echoes and strange noises; and all distant places which may be visited, together with the adventures there found, I do give to said boys to be theirs. And I give to said boys each his own place at the fireside at night, with all pictures that may be seen in the burning wood or coal, to enjoy without let or hindrance and without any incumbrance of cares.

Item: To lovers I devise their imaginary world, with whatever they may need, as the stars of the sky, the red, red roses by the wall, the snow of the hawthorn, the sweet strains of music, or aught else they may desire to figure to each other the lastingness and beauty of their love.

Item: To young men jointly, being joined in a brave, mad crowd, I devise and bequeath all boisterous, inspiring sports of rivalry. I give to them the disdain of weakness and the undaunted confidence in their own strength. Though they are rude and rough, I leave to them alone the power of making lasting friendships and of possessing companions, and to them exclusively I give all merry songs and brave choruses to sing, with smooth voices to troll them forth.

Item: And to those who are no longer children, or youths, or lovers, I leave Memory, and I leave to them the volumes of the poems of Burns and Shakespeare, and of other poets, if there are others, to the end that they may live the old days over again freely and fully, without tithe or diminution; and to those who are no longer children, or youths, or lovers, I leave, too, the knowledge of what a rare, rare world it is.

Williston Fish, A Last Will, pp. 12-18 (1908).

This work, also known as The Hobo's Will or The Last Will of Charles Lounsbury, first appeared in Harper's Weekly in 1898. It was reprinted so many times, often in a garbled or "improved" form, that a correct edition was published in 1908.

Babies/Children/Childhood

Know you what it is to be a child? It is to be something very different from the man of today. It is to have a spirit yet streaming from the waters of baptism; it is to believe in love, to believe in loveliness, to believe in belief; it is to be so little that the elves can reach to whisper in your ear; it is to turn pumpkins into coaches, and mice into horses, lowness into loftiness, and nothing into everything, for each child has its fairy godmother in its own soul; it is to live in a nutshell and to count yourself the king of infinite space; it is

To see a world in a grain of sand,

And a Heaven in a wild flower,

Hold infinity in the palm of your hand,

And eternity in an hour;

it is to know not as yet that you are under sentence of life, nor petition that it be commuted into death.

Francis Thompson, "Shelley," The Works of Francis Thompson, vol. 3, pp. 7-8 (1913).

The poem quoted is "Auguries of Innocence" by William Blake.

Babies/Children/Childhood

Men are generally more careful of the breed of their horses and dogs than of their children.

William Penn

Babies/Children/Childhood

Monday's child is fair in face,

Tuesday's child is full of grace,

Wednesday's child is full of woe,

Thursday's child has far to go,

Friday's child is loving and giving,

Saturday's child works hard for its living;

And a child that's born on a Christmas day,

is fair and wise, good and gay.

Author unknown.—Anna E. K. S. Bray, Traditions, Legends, Superstitions, and Sketches of Devonshire…, vol. 2, pp. 287-88 (1838).Later publications of this poetical adage have made minor word changes, including line 7 to read "But a child that's born on the Sabbath day." This is the wording used in Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, 15th ed., p. 932 (1980).

Babies/Children/Childhood

One father is enough to governe one hundred sons, but not a hundred sons one father.

George Herbert,

Outlandish Proverbs, Selected by

Mr G. H., no. 404 (1640).

The Works of George Herbert,

ed. F. E. Hutchinson, p. 335 (1941).

Babies/Children/Childhood

Other people's harvests are always the best harvests, but one's children are always the best children.

Mencius

Babies/Children/Childhood

Perhaps we cannot prevent this world from being a world in which children are tortured. But we can reduce the number of tortured children. And if you don't help us, who else in the world can help us do this?

Albert Camus, statement made at the Dominican Monastery of Latour-Maubourg in 1948.—Camus, Resistance, Rebellion and Death, trans. Justin O'Brien, p. 73 (1961).

Babies/Children/Childhood

Sons are the anchors of a mother's life.

Sophocles

Babies/Children/Childhood

The children now love luxury; they have bad manners, contempt for authority; they show disrespect for elders and love chatter in place of exercise. Children are now tyrants, not the servants of their households. They no longer rise when elders enter the room. They contradict their parents, chatter before company, gobble up dainties at the table, cross their legs, and tyrannize their teachers.

Attributed to Socrates by Plato, according to William L. Patty and Louise S. Johnson, Personality and Adjustment, p. 277 (1953).This passage was very popular in the 1960s and its essence was used by the Mayor of Amsterdam, Gijsbert van Hall, following a street demonstration in 1966, as reported by The New York Times, April 3, 1966, p. 16.

This use prompted Malcolm S. Forbes to write an editorial on youth.—Forbes, April 15, 1966, p. 11. In that same issue, under the heading "Side Lines," pp. 5-6, is a summary of the efforts of researchers and scholars to confirm the wording of Socrates, or Plato, but without success. Evidently, the quotation is spurious.

Babies/Children/Childhood

The hand that rocks the cradle usually is attached to someone who isn't getting enough sleep.

John Fiebig

Babies/Children/Childhood

The persons hardest to convince that they're at the retirement age are children at bedtime.

Shannon Fife

Babies/Children/Childhood

The thorn from the bush one has planted, nourished, and pruned pierces most deeply and draws more blood.

Maya Angelou

Babies/Children/Childhood

There is nothing more sad or glorious than generations changing hands.

John Cougar Mellencamp

Babies/Children/Childhood

To be ignorant of what occurred before you were born is to remain always a child.

Marcus Tullius Cicero, Orator chapter 34, section 120.—Cicero: Brutus, Orator trans. H. M. Hubbell, p. 395 (1939).This work appeared in 46 B.C. and is sometimes confused with his earlier De Oratore, which appeared in 55 B.C.

Babies/Children/Childhood

To be without posterity is an offense against the whole line of ancestors, and terminates the sacrifices to them.

Mencius

Babies/Children/Childhood

We must destroy all which in the present school answers to the organization of constraint, the artificial surroundings by which children are separated from nature and life, the intellectual and moral discipline made use of to impose ready-made ideas upon them, beliefs which deprave and annihilate natural bent.

Francisco Ferrer (1859-executed 1909)

The Modern School

Babies/Children/Childhood

What you don't know takes a lot of explaining to the children.

Author Unknown

China

If I were an Englishman, I should esteem the man who advised a war with China to be the greatest living enemy of my country. You would be beaten in the end, and perhaps a revolution in India would follow.

Napoleon.—Unverified except for its publication in The Mind of Napoleon, ed. and trans. J. Christopher HeroId, p. 249 (1955). In this source the words above were from a conversation, reported in English, in 1817.

China

In Sichuan [Szechwan] dogs bark at the sun (because it's a rare sight in that misty region)—an ignorant person makes a fuss about something which he alone finds strange.

A Chinese-English Dictionary, p. 637 (1979).

China

No dogs or Chinese allowed.

Signpost, found in European sections of Shanghai pre-1927. A source at the Mainland China desk, Department of State, said in 1972 that this sign existed in the mid-1920s in the garden of the Bund. This seems to be confirmed by Manley O. Hudson, "The International Settlement at Shanghai," Foreign Affairs, October 1927, p. 83: "The question of admitting Chinese to the public parks, maintained out of public funds, has recently become acute. The Land Regulations empower the Council to create and maintain roads and public gardens, 'provided always that such roads and gardens shall be dedicated to the public use, and for the health, amusement and recreation of all persons residing within the Settlement.' This is taken to mean all foreign persons, and the parks are closed to Chinese—old residents say that the prohibition formerly read 'Chinese and dogs.'" A published photograph of such a sign has not been found.

China

The Chinese said of themselves several thousand years ago: "China is a sea that salts all the waters that flow into it." There's another Chinese saying about their country which is much more modern—it dates only from the fourth century. This is the saying: "The tail of China is large and will not be wagged." I like that one. The British democracy approves the principles of movable party heads and unwaggable national tails. It is due to the working of these important forces that I have the honour to be addressing you at this moment.

Winston Churchill, address to a joint session of Congress, Washington, D.C., January 17, 1952.—Winston S. Churchill: His Complete Speeches, 1897-1963, ed. Robert Rhodes James, vol. 8, p. 8326 (1974).

Choice

"The choice is given me either to remain in this world to the end of time, in the enjoyment of all its delight, or to return to the presence of God; and I have chosen the latter." "Much easier is it to bear punishment in this world than throughout eternity." His last address—"I return to him who sent me and my last command to you is that ye remain united; that ye love, honour and uphold each other; that ye exhort each other to faith and constancy in belief and to the performance of pious deeds; by these alone men prosper—all else leads to destruction…. Death awaits us all; let no one seek to turn it aside form me. My life has been for your good; so will be my death." "Oh Allah! be it so! among the glorious associates in paradise."

Mahomet

Washington Irving

Choice

The bird chooses its tree, not the tree the bird.

Lao Tse

Choice

The choice and master spirits of this age.

William Shakespeare

Julius Caesar, III, i, 163

Choice

When yu' can't have what you choose, yu' just choose what you have.

Owen Wister, The Virginian, chapter 13, p. 149 (1929).

Choice

[Upon being asked whether he would rather be Achilles or Homer] Which would you rather be—a victor in the Olympic games, or the announcer of the victor?

Themistocles

From Plutarch, Apothegms, Themistoles

Christian/Christianity

For we must consider that we shall be a city upon a hill. The eyes of all people are upon us, so that if we shall deal falsely with our God in this work we have undertaken, and so cause Him to withdraw His present help from us, we shall be made a story and a byword through the world.

John Winthrop

A Model of Christian Charity, a sermon delivered on board the Arbella

Christian/Christianity

…among Christian nations, the majority are Anthromorphites; that, among the Catholics, most of the people are idolators…. Therefore there are a number of heretics in all Christian sects. What is more, each man believes that which appears to him to be the truth.

Frederick (II) The Great (1712-1784)

An Essay on Forms of government (1777)

Christian/Christianity

Adeste, fideles.

Laeti triumphantes;

Venite, venite in Bethlehem.

Anonymous Latin Hymn, eighteenth century

Christian/Christianity

After all, his (Christ's) mission has proved scarcely less than a complete failure; two thousand years have passed and Christians do not number one-fifth part of the population of the globe.

Elena (Petrovna) Blavatsky

Christian/Christianity

All diseases of Christians are to be ascribed to demons.

St. Augustine

Christian/Christianity

And I say that Your Highnesses ought not to consent that any foreigner does business or sets foot here, except Christian Catholics, since this was the end and the beginning of the enterprise, that it should be for the enhancement and glory of the Christian religion, nor should anyone who is not a good Christian come to these parts.

Christopher Columbus

Journal of the First Voyage, November 27, 1492

Christian/Christianity

As yet Christianity has done little, compared with what it is to do, in establishing the true bond of union between man and man. The old bonds of society still continue in a great degree. They are instinct, interest, force. The true tie, which is mutual respect, calling forth mutual, growing, never-failing acts of love, is as yet little known. A new revelation, if I may so speak, remains to be made; or rather, the truths of the old revelation in regard to the greatness of human nature are to be brought out from obscurity and neglect.

William Ellery Channing

Christian/Christianity

Christian life consists of faith and charity.

Martin Luther

Christian/Christianity

Christianity is the enemy of liberty and of civilization. It has kept mankind in chains.

August Bebel

Speech, Reichstag, March 31, 1881.

Christian/Christianity

Christianity was preached by ignorant men and believed by servants, and that is why it resembles nothing ever known.

Joseph de Maistre (1753-1821)

Considérations sur la France (1796)

Christian/Christianity

Conclude not from all this that I have renounced the Christian religion….Far from it. I see in every page something to recommend Christianity in its purity, and something to discredit its corruptions….The ten commandments and the sermon on the mount contain my religion.

John Adams

To Jefferson, November 4, 1816.

Christian/Christianity

Ethical man—a Christian holding four aces.

Mark Twain

Christian/Christianity

Even those who have renounced Christianity and attack it, in their inmost being still follow the Christian ideal, for hitherto neither their subtlety nor the ardour of their hearts has been able to create a higher ideal of man and of virtue than the ideal given by Christ.

Fyodor Dostoyevski (1821-1881)

The Brothers Karamazov (1880)

Christian/Christianity

He who begins by loving Christianity better than Truth, will proceed by loving his sect or church better than Christianity, and end in loving himself better than all.

Samuel Taylor Coleridge

Christian/Christianity

How very hard it is to be a Christian!

Robert Browning

Easter Day.

Christian/Christianity

I call Christianity the one great curse, the one enormous and innermost perversion, the one great instinct of revenge, for which no means are too venomous, too underhand, too underground and too petty—I call it the one immortal blemish of mankind.

Friedrich Nietzsche

Christian/Christianity

I dare, without usurpation, assume the honorable style of a Christian.

Sir Thomas Browne

Religio Medici, I, 1

Christian/Christianity

I have now disposed of all my property to my family. There is one thing more I wish I could give them, and that is the Christian religion.

Patrick Henry

Christian/Christianity

I should have been a Christian had Christ never lived.

Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1772-1834)

Quoted in Noyes, Views of Religion

Christian/Christianity

If the Christian religion, as I understand it, or as you understand it, should maintain its ground, as I believe it will, yet Platonic, Pythagoric, Hindoo, and cabalistical Christianity, which is Catholic Christianity, and which has prevailed for 1500 years, has received a mortal wound, of which the monster must finally die. Yet so strong is his constitution, that he may endure for centuries before he expires.

John Adams

To Jefferson, July 16, 1814.

Christian/Christianity

In order to see Christianity, one must forget almost all the Christians.

Henri Frederic Amiel

Journal.

Christian/Christianity

Indeed, Mr. Jefferson, what could be invented to debase the ancient Christianism, which Greeks, Romans, Hebrews and Christian factions, above all the Catholics, have not fraudulently imposed upon the public? Miracles after miracles have rolled down in torrents, wave succeeding wave in the Catholic church, from the Council of Nice, and long before, to this day.

John Adams

To Jefferson, December 3, 1813.

Christian/Christianity

It can do truth no service to blink the fact…that a large portion of the noblest and most valuable teaching has been the work, not only of men who did not know, but of men who knew and rejected, the Christian faith.

John Stuart Mill

Christian/Christianity

See how these Christians love another.

Quintus Septimius Tertullian

Apologeticus, 39

Christian/Christianity

The (Christian soldiers) are to wage the war of Christ their master without fearing that they sin in killing their enemies or of being lost if they are themselves killed, since when they give or receive the deathblow, they are guilty of no crime, but all is to their glory. If they kill, it is to the profit of Christ; if they die, it is to their own.

St. Bernard

Christian/Christianity

The age of ignorance commenced with the Christian system.

Thomas Paine

Christian/Christianity

The Christian religion not only was at first attended with miracles, but even at this day cannot be believed by any reasonable person without one.

David Hume

Christian/Christianity

The Christians were the first to make the existence of Satan a dogma of the church. What is the use in a Pope if there is no Devil?

Elena (Petrovna) Blavatsky

Christian/Christianity

The government of the United States is not in any sense founded upon the Christian religion.

John Adams

Christian/Christianity

The noble history of the Sangreal, and of the most renowned Christian king, first and chief of the three best Christian and worthy, King Arthur, which ought most to be remembered among us English men before all other Christian kings. For it is notoriously known through the universal world that there be nine worthy and the best that ever were. That is to wit three paynims, three Jews, and three Christian men. As for the paynims they were…the first Hector of Troy…the second Alexander the Great; and the third Julius Caesar…. And as for the three Jews…the first was Duke Joshua…the second David…and the third Judas Maccabaeus….And saith the said Incarnation have been three noble Christian men…of whom was first the noble Arthur…. The second was Charlemagne…and the third and last was Godfrey of Bouillon.

Sir Thomas Malory

Le Morte d'Arthur. Preface by William Caxton, the first English

printer

Christian/Christianity

The test of Christian character should be that a man is a joy-bearing agent to the world.

Henry Ward Beecher

Christian/Christianity

The two Christians met on the way many people who were going to their towns, women and men, with a firebrand in the hand, [and] herbs to drink the smoke thereof, as they are accustomed.

Christopher Columbus

Journal of the First Voyage, November 6, 1492

Christian/Christianity

Theology is anthropology.

Ludwig Feuerbach (1804-1872)

The Essence of Christianity (1841)

Christian/Christianity

There has never been a religion in the annals of the world with such a bloody record as Christianity.

Elena (Petrovna) Blavatsky

Christian/Christianity

There is no real difference between worldly and heavenly wisdom. For religion consecrates daily life.

John Lubbock

Christian/Christianity

There never was found in any age of the world, either philosopher or sect, or law, or discipline which did so highly exalt the public good as the Christian faith.

Francis Bacon

Christian/Christianity

To be like Christ is to be a Christian.

William Penn

Christian/Christianity

We decree and order that from now on, and for all time, Christians shall not eat or drink with Jews, nor admit them to feasts, nor cohabit with them, nor bathe with them.

Eugenius IV (c. 1383-1447), Pope from 1431

Decree (1442)

Christian/Christianity

We hold that the Pope, as Pope, although he does not have any purely temporal power, yet has in order for spiritual good, supreme power to dispose of the temporal affairs of all Christians.

St. Robert Bellarmine

De Romano Pontifice.

Christian/Christianity

We multiply whenever we are mown down by you; the blood of Christians is seed.

Quintus Septimius Tertullian

Apologeticus, 50

Christian/Christianity

When I mention religion I mean the Christian religion: and not only the Christian religion but the Protestant religion: and not only the Protestant religion but the Church of England.

Henry Fielding

Christian/Christianity

Christianity is completed Judaism, or it is nothing.

Benjamin Disraeli (Earl of Beaconsfield) (1804-1881)

Attributed

Christian/Christianity

He who shall introduce into public affairs the principles of primitive Christianity, will revolutionize the world.

Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790)

Poor Richard's Almanac, 1734

Christian/Christianity

There is no greater drama in human record than the sight of a few Christians, scorned or oppressed by a succession of emperors, bearing all trials with a fierce tenacity, multiplying quietly, building order while their enemies generated chaos, fighting the sword with the word, brutality with hope, and at last defeating the strongest state that history has known. Caesar and Christ had met in the arena, and Christ had won.

Will Durant, The Story of Civilization, vol. 3, chapter 30, part 1, p. 652 (1944).

Christian/Christianity

This is all the Inheritance I can give to my dear family. The Religion of Christ can give them one which will make them rich indeed.

Patrick Henry, from his last will and testament, November 20, 1798.—Moses C. Tyler, Patrick Henry, p. 395 (1898, reprinted 1972).

Christmas

At Christmas play and make good cheer,

For Christmas comes but once a year.

Thomas Tusser

A Hundred Points of Good Husbandry,

The Farmer's Daily Diet

Christmas

Wherein the Son of Heav'n's eternal King,

Of wedded maid and virgin mother born,

Our great redemption from above did bring;

For so the holy sages once did sing,

That He our deadly forfeit should release,

And with His Father work us a perpetual peace.

John Milton

On the Morning of Christ's Nativity, 1, 1

Church

A church is not a company carrying a bunch of keys to unlock the doors to all our problems, but a people with a master key to the whole of life

Edward R. Elson

Church

I would not have believed the gospel had not the authority of the Church moved me.

St. Augustine

Contra Epistulam Fundamenti, ch. 5

Church

It is generally agreed that the Founder of the Church, Jesus Christ, wished the spiritual power to be distinct from the civil, and each to be free and unhampered in doing its own work, not forgetting however, that it is expedient for both, and in the interest of everybody, that there be a harmonious relationship.

Pope Leo XIII

Arcanum Divinae Sapientaie

Church

It was once said that if you took all of the people who fell asleep in church and laid them end to end…they would be more comfortable.

Author Unknown

Church

It were better to be of no church, than to be bitter for any.

William Penn

Church

Miracles are the swaddling clothes of infant churches.

Thomas Fuller (1608-1661)

The Church History of Britain (1655)

Church

Mother Church.

Quintus Septimius Tertullian

Ad Martyras, 1

Church

The Church alone beyond all question

Has for ill-gotten goods the right digestion.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832)

Faust (1806, tr. Bayard Taylor), Sc. IX

Church

The Church is not susceptible to being reformed in her doctrines. The Church is the work of an incarnate God. Like all God's works, it is perfect. It is, therefore, incapable of reform.

James Gibbons

The Faith of our Fathers (1876), vii

Church

The itch of disputing will prove the scab of churches.

Sir Henry Wotton

A Panegyric to King Charles

Church

Wherever God erects a house of prayer,

The Devil always builds a chapel there;

And 'twill be found, upon examination,

The latter has the largest congregation.

Daniel Defoe (1660?-1731)

The True-Born Englishman (1701), Pt. I

Cities

A city for sale and soon to perish if it finds a buyer!

Sallust [Gaius Sallustius Crispus]

The War with Jugurtha, 35

Cities

Cities are the abyss of the human species.

(Les villes sont le gouffre de l'espêce humaine.)

Jean Jacques Rousseau,

Emile, book 1, p. 59 (1979).

Originally published in 1762. The word gouffre

is sometimes translated as sink instead of abyss.

Cities

Only the modern city offers the mind the grounds on which it can achieve awareness of itself.

Georg Wilhelm Hegel

Cities

The American city should be a collection of communities where every member has a right to belong. It should be a place where every man feels safe on his streets and in the house of his friends. It should be a place where each individual's dignity and self-respect is strengthened by the respect and affection of his neighbors. It should be a place where each of us can find the satisfaction and warmth which comes from being a member of the community of man. This is what man sought at the dawn of civilization. It is what we seek today.

President Lyndon B. Johnson, special message to the Congress on the nation's cities, March 2, 1965.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Lyndon B. Johnson, 1965, book 1, p. 240.

Cities

The city is the teacher of the man.

Simonides

Fragment 53

Cities

This dismal Cairo [Illinois], an ugly sepulchre, a grave uncheered by any gleam of promise.

Charles Dickens

Cities

Two days brought us to San Pedro, and two days more (to our no small joy), gave us our last view of that place.

Richard Henry Dana

Cities

We cannot afford merely to sit down and deplore the evils of city life as inevitable, when cities are constantly growing, both absolutely and relatively. We must set ourselves vigorously about the task of improving them; and this task is now well begun.

Theodore Roosevelt, "The City in Modern Life," Literary Essays (vol. 12 of The Works of Theodore Roosevelt, national ed.), p. 226 (1926). Book review in The Atlantic Monthly, April 1895.

Cities

When several villages are united in a single complete community, large enough to be nearly or quite self-sufficing, the state comes into existence, originating in the bare needs of life, and continuing in existence for the sake of a good life.

Aristotle, Politics, book 1, chapter 2.—Aristotle's Politics and Poetics, trans. Benjamin Jowett and Thomas Twining, p. 5 (1952). Jowett translated Politics.

Cities

[Solon] being asked, namely, what city was best to live in, "That city," he replied, "in which those who are not wronged, no less than those who are wronged, exert themselves to punish the wrongdoers."

Plutarch, Plutarch's Lives, trans. Bernadotte Perrin, life of Solon, section 18, vol. 1, p. 455 (1914).

Citizen/Citizenship

The first mile-stone to being a good citizen is learning how to disagree without being disagreeable.

Author Unknown

Citizen/Citizenship

We will all be better citizens when voting records of our Congressmen are followed as closely as scores of pro football games.

Lou Erickson

Citizen/Citizenship

A man who neglects his duty as a citizen is not entitled to his rights as a citizen.

Tiorio

Citizen/Citizenship

Citizenship is no light trifle to be jeopardized any moment Congress decides to do so under the name of one of its general or implied grants of power.

Justice Hugo L. Black, Arfoyim v. Rusk, 387 U.S. 267-68 (1967).

Citizen/Citizenship

Cultivators of the earth are the most valuable citizens. They are the most vigorous, the most independant, the most virtuous, and they are tied to their country and wedded to it's liberty and interests by the most lasting bands. As long therefore as they can find employment in this line, I would not convert them into mariners, artisans, or any thing else. But our citizens will find emploiment in this line till their numbers, and of course their productions, become too great for the demand both internal and foreign.

Thomas Jefferson, letter to John Jay, August 23, 1785.—The Papers of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Julian P. Boyd, vol. 8, p. 426 (1953).

Citizen/Citizenship

Good roads, good schools and good churches are a sure sign of the best citizenship produced by a free republic. How about our roads?

Author unknown. "Sign of Citizenship," Good Roads, A Monthly Journal Devoted to Our National Highways, December 1906, p. 176.

Citizen/Citizenship

I am a citizen, not of Athens or Greece, but of the world.

Socrates

Citizen/Citizenship

I am a Roman citizen.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

In Verrem, V, 57

Citizen/Citizenship

I am a Roman citizen.

(Civis Romanus sum.)

Marcus Tullius Cicero, Against Verres (In Verrem), part 2, book 5, section 57.—Cicero, The Verrine Orations, trans. L. H. G. Greenwood, vol. 2, p. 629 (1935).This was a proud boast when few were citizens. It was enough to stop arbitrary condemnation, bonds and scourging, because Roman citizenship granted the right to be tried in Roman courts.

On June 26, 1963, President John F. Kennedy spoke to the crowd in Berlin, West Germany: "Two thousand years ago the proudest boast was 'civis Romanus sum.'" "Today, in the world of freedom, the proudest boast is 'Ich bin ein Berliner'…. All free men, wherever they may live, are citizens of Berlin, and, therefore, as a free man, I take pride in the words 'Ich bin ein Berliner.'"—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: John F Kennedy, 1963, pp. 524, 525.

Citizen/Citizenship

Socrates…said he was not an Athenian or a Greek, but a citizen of the world.

Plutarch, "On Banishment," Plutarch's Morals, rev. William W Goodwin, vol. 3, p. 19 (1871).

Citizen/Citizenship

The health of a democratic society may be measured by the quality of functions performed by private citizens.

Alexis de Tocqueville

Citizen/Citizenship

The worth of a state, in the long run, is the worth of the individuals composing it.

John Stuart Mill

Citizen/Citizenship

There are three classes of citizens. The first are the rich, who are indolent and yet always crave more. The second are the poor, who have nothing, are full of envy, hate the rich, and are easily led by demagogues. Between the two extremes lie those who make the state secure and uphold the laws.

Euripides (485-406 B.C.)

The Suppliants (c. 420 B.C.)

Civil Rights

Happily for us, students have not tried to overthrow the Government of the United States, but they certainly are making their views felt in public affairs. I think especially of the participation of American students in the great struggle to advance civil and human rights in America. Indeed, even a jail sentence is no longer a dishonor but a proud achievement.

Adlai E. Stevenson, U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, commencement address at Colby College, Waterville, Maine, June 7, 1964.—The Papers of Adlai E. Steven son, vol. 8, p. 567 (1979).

Civil Rights

I am the inferior of any man whose rights I trample underfoot.

Horace Greeley

Civil Rights

I hope that you of the IPA will go out into the hinterland and rouse the masses and blow the bugles and tell them that the hour has arrived and their day is here; that we are on the march against the ancient enemies and we are going to be successful.

President Lyndon B. Johnson, remarks to the International Platform Association, August 3, 1965.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Lyndon B. Johnson, 1965, book 2, p. 822.

Civil Rights

Let us therefore continue our triumphal march to the realization of the American dream…. for all of us today, the battle is in our hands…. The road ahead is not altogether a smooth one. There are no broad highways that lead us easily and inevitably to quick solutions…. We are still in for the season of suffering…. How long? Not long. Because no lie can live forever…. our God is marching on.

Martin Luther King, Jr., speech on the steps of the State Capitol Building, Montgomery, Alabama, March 25, 1965.—Transcript from tape recording. This speech was not reported in its entirety.

Civil Rights

Nothing then is unchangeable but the inherent and inalienable rights of man.

Thomas Jefferson

Civil Rights

This Nation was founded by men of many nations and backgrounds. It was founded on the principle that all men are created equal, and that the rights of every man are diminished when the rights of one man are threatened.

President John F. Kennedy, radio and television report to the American people on civil rights, June 11, 1963.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: John F Kennedy, 1963, p. 468.

Civil War

Here Sunday, April, 9th, 1865, after four years of heroic struggle in defense of the principles believed to be fundamental to the existence of our government, Lee surrendered 9,000 men, the remnant of an army still unconquered in spirit, to 118,000 men under Grant.

Author unknown. Inscription on granite memorial marking site of the original Appomattox Court House, where the Civil War ended, Appomattox Court House National Historical Park, Virginia. When the building burned several decades after the war, the county seat was moved to a new location three miles away.—Mary Louise Gills, It Happened at Appomattox, p. 21 (1948).

Civil War

They [the Secessionists] appealed to the Constitution, they appealed to justice, they appealed to fraternity, until the Constitution, justice, and fraternity were no longer listened to in the legislative halls of their country, and then, sir, they prepared for the arbitrament of the sword; and now you see the glittering bayonet, and you hear the tramp of armed men from your capital to the Rio Grande.

Senator Robert Toombs, remarks in the Senate, January 7, 1861, Congressional Globe, vol. 38, p. 267.

Civilization

A great city is that which has the greatest men and women.

Walt Whitman

Civilization

A sufficient measure of civilization is the influence of good women.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Civilization

But the greatest menace to our civilization today is the conflict between giant organized systems of self-righteousness—each system only too delighted to find that the other is wicked—each only too glad that the sins give it the pretext for still deeper hatred and animosity.

Herbert Butterfield, Christianity, Diplomacy and War p. 43 (1953).

Civilization

Cities force growth, and make men talkative and entertaining, but they make them artificial.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Civilization

Civilization is progress from an indefinite, incoherent homogeneity toward a definite, coherent heterogeneity.

Herbert Spencer

Civilization

Confucianism may be a civilization but it is not a religion.

G. K. Chesterton

Civilization

I always seem to suffer some loss of faith on entering cities.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Civilization

I do not see how a barbarous community and a civilized community can constitute a state. I think we must get rid of slavery or we must get rid of freedom.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Civilization

If we lose the virile, manly qualities, and sink into a nation of mere hucksters, putting gain over national honor, and subordinating everything to mere ease of life, then we shall indeed reach a condition worse than that of the ancient civilizations in the years of their decay.

Theodore Roosevelt, "The Law of Civilization and Decay," American Ideals (vol. 13 of The Works of Theodore Roosevelt, national ed.), chapter 15, pp. 259-60 (1926). This review of The Law of Civilization and Decay by Brooks Adams appeared in The Forum, January 1897.

Civilization

Now civilizations, I believe, come to birth and proceed to grow by successfully responding to successive challenges. They break down and go to pieces if and when a challenge confronts them which they fail to meet.

Arnold J. Toynbee, Civilization on Trial, chapter 4, p. 56 (1948).

Civilization

Of the twenty or so civilizations known to modern Western historians, all except our own appear to be dead or moribund, and, when we diagnose each case, in extremis or post mortem, we invariably find that the cause of death has been either war or class or some combination of the two. To date, these two plagues have been deadly enough, in partnership, to kill off nineteen out of twenty representatives of this recently evolved species of human society; but, up to now, the deadliness of these scourges has had a saving limit.

Arnold J. Toynbee, Civilization on Trial, chapter 2, p. 23 (1948).

Civilization

On this showing, the nature of the breakdowns of civilizations can be summed up in three points: a failure of creative power in the minority, an answering withdrawal of mimesis on the part of the majority, and a consequent loss of social unity in the society as a whole.

Arnold J. Toynbee, A Study of History, vol. 4, part B, p. 6 (1948).

Civilization

The artistic temperament is not a national trait of the English race. Our complex and exciting civilization has, indeed, developed, especially in America, a sensitiveness of nervous organization which often wears the semblance of the artistic temperament, and shows itself in manual dexterity and refined technical skill.

Charles E. Norton

Civilization

The end of the human race will be that it will eventually die of civilization.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Civilization

The exact measure of the progress of civilization is the degree in which the intelligence of the common mind has prevailed over wealth and brute force; in other words, the measure of the progress of civilization is the progress of the people.

George Bancroft

Address, Historical Society, New York, 1854.

Civilization

The flowering of civilization is the finished man, the man of sense, of grace, of accomplishment, of social power the gentleman.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Civilization

The Hebrews have done more to civilize men than any other nation. If I were an atheist, and believed in blind eternal fate, I should still believe that fate had ordained the Jews to be the most essential instrument for civilizing the nations.

John Adams

Letter to F. A. Van der Kamp, February 16, 1809.

Civilization

The path of civilization is paved with tin cans.

Elbert Hubbard

Civilization

The sum of the whole matter is this, that our civilization cannot survive materially unless it be redeemed spiritually.

Woodrow Wilson, "The Read Away from Revolution," article written for The Atlantic Monthly, August 1923.—The Messages and Papers of Woodrow Wilson, ed. Albert Shaw, vol. 2, p. 1232 (1924).

Civilization

The test of civilization is the estimate of woman. Among savages she is a slave. In the dark ages of Christianity she is a toy and a sentimental goddess. With increasing moral light, and greater liberty, and more universal justice, she begins to develop as an equal human being.

George William Curtis (1824-1892)

Contribution, Harper's September 1886

Civilization

The three great elements of modern civilization: gunpowder, printing, and the protestant religion.

Thomas Carlyle

Critical and Miscellaneous Essays.

Civilization

The truest test of civilization is not the census, nor the size of cities, nor the crops; no, but the kind of man the country turns out.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Civilization

This strange disease of modern life with its brisk hurry and divided aims.

Matthew Arnold

Civilization

To be prosperous is not to be superior, and should form no barrier between men. Wealth ought not to secure to the prosperous the slightest consideration. The only distinctions which should be recognized are those of the soul, of strong principle, of incorruptible integrity, of usefulness, of cultivated intellect, of fidelity in seeking the truth.

William Ellery Channing

On the Elevation of the Laboring Classes, 1840.

Civilization

We must remember that any oppression, any injustice, any hatred, is a wedge designed to attack our civilization.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt, letter to Dr. William Allan Neilson, January 9, 1940. The letter was read to the conference of the American Committee for Protection of Foreign-born, Washington, D.C., March 1, 1940.—The Public Papers and Addresses of Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1940, p. 36 (1941).This sentence is one of many quotations inscribed on Cox Corridor II, a first floor House corridor, U.S. Capitol.

Civilization

We think of our civilization near its meridian, but we are yet only at the cock crowing and the morning star.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Civilization

What has destroyed every previous civilization has been the tendency to the unequal distribution of wealth and power.

Henry George

Civilization

Whatever fosters militarism makes for barbarism; whatever fosters peace makes for civilization.

Herbert Spencer

Civilization

When tillage begins, other arts follow. The farmers therefore are the founders of human civilization.

Daniel Webster

Civilization/Home

The home is the most important factor in civilization and that civilization is to be measured at different stages largely by the development in the home. The noble characters who have left a deathless impress upon the history of the nations were not fashioned on battlefields, but at the fireside.

Herbert Spencer

Clarity

"It's very strange," said Mr. Dick…"that I never can get that quite right; I never can make that perfectly clear."

Charles Dickens, David Copperfield, chapter 14, p. 124 (1950). This novel was originally published serially in 1849-1850.

Clarity

I didn't say that I didn't say it. I said that I didn't say that I said it. I want to make that very clear.

Attributed to George Romney.—National Review, December 12, 1967, cover. Unverified.

Cleanliness

"Cleanliness is next to Godliness"—Carefulness leads to cleanliness; cleanliness to purity; purity to humility; humility to saintliness; saintliness to fear of sin; fear of sin to holiness; and holiness to immortality.

The Talmud

Cleanliness

Who of late for cleanliness,

Finds sixpence in her shoe?

Bishop Richard Corbet

Farewell to the Fairies, 1

Closed-mindedness

A closed mind is an enigma indeed. Nothing ever goes in—but odd things are forever coming out.

Laurence Dunphy

Clothing

Beware of all enterprises that require new clothes.

Henry David Thoreau

Clothing

Clothes don't tell the character of the man, but they just as well talk for him as against him.

Author Unknown

Clothing

Three-tenths of good looks are due to nature; seven-tenths to dress.

Confucius

Cold War

A shadow has fallen upon the scenes so lately lighted by the Allied victory…. From Stettin in the Baltic to Trieste in the Adriatic, an iron curtain has descended across the Continent.

Winston Churchill, "The Sinews of Peace," address at Westminster College, Fulton, Missouri, March 5, 1946.—Winston S. Churchill: His Complete Speeches, 1897-1963, ed. Robert Rhodes James, vol. 7, p. 7290 (1974).The term "iron curtain" was used in this sense as early as 1920, and Churchill had used it earlier in a telegram to President Harry Truman, May 12, 1945: "An iron curtain is drawn down upon their front. We do not know what is going on behind."—Winston Churchill, Triumph and Tragedy (vol. 6 of The Second World War), p. 573 (1953). It was Churchill's use of the term in this speech, however, which popularized it.

For earlier uses of the phrase see William Safire, Safire's Political Dictionary, pp. 339-40 (1978), and Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, 15th ed., p. 746, no. 9 (1980).

Cold War

If the estimate of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs is correct, then Russia has lost the cold war in western Europe.

Walter Lippmann, syndicated column, The Miami Herald, December 18, 1947, p. 6A.

Cold War

Let us not be deceived—we are today in the midst of a cold war. Our enemies are to be found abroad and at home. Let us never forget this: Our unrest is the heart of their success. The peace of the world is the hope and the goal of our political system; it is the despair and defeat of those who stand against us.

Bernard M. Baruch, address at the unveiling of his portrait in the South Carolina legislature, Columbia, South Carolina, April 16, 1947.—Journal of the House of Representatives of the First Session of the 87th General Assembly of the State of South Carolina, p. 1085.The phrase "cold war" was coined by Herbert Bayard Swope, who occasionally wrote speeches for Baruch, and was first used in this speech. It was popularized by, and sometimes mistakenly attributed to, columnist Walter Lippmann, whose 1947 book was titled The Cold War

Baruch used the phrase again on October 24, 1947—"Although the shooting war is over, we are in the midst of a cold war which is getting warmer"—in testimony before the Senate's Special Committee Investigating the National Defense Program, part 42, p. 25740 (1948). William Safire, Safire's Political Dictionary, pp. 127-29 (1978), gives an extensive account of the coinage and use of this term, though the date for Baruch's testimony is given there as 1948.

Cold War

The central drama of our age is how the Western nations and the Asian peoples are to find a tolerable basis of co-existence.

Walter Lippmann, "Asia and the West" New York Herald Tribune (European edition), September 15, 1965, p. 4.

Cold War

We may be likened to two scorpions in a bottle, each capable of killing the other, but only at the risk of his own life.

J. Robert Oppenheimer, "Atomic Weapons and American Policy" Foreign Affairs, July 1953, p. 529.

Colleges/Universities

A university does great things, but there is one thing it does not do; it does not intellectualize its neighborhood.

John Henry, Cardinal Newman

Colleges/Universities

Enter by this gateway and seek the way of honor, the light of truth, the will to work for men

E. A. Alderman, inscription on the archway at the entrance to the medical college, University of Virginia, Charlottesville.Alderman was the first president of the University, which was administered by a chairman of the faculty until 1905.

Colleges/Universities

I would advise no one to send his child where the Holy Scriptures are not supreme. Every institution that does not unceasingly pursue the study of God's word becomes corrupt. Because of this we can see what kind of people they become in the universities and what they are like now. Nobody is to blame for this except the pope, the bishops, and the prelates, who are all charged with training young people. The universities only ought to turn out men who are experts in the Holy Scriptures, men who can become bishops and priests, and stand in the front line against heretics, the devil, and all the world. But where do you find that? I greatly fear that the universities, unless they teach the Holy Scriptures diligently and impress them on the young students, are wide gates to hell.

Martin Luther, "To the Christian Nobility of the German Nation Concerning the Reform of the Christian Estate, 15201' trans. Charles M. Jacobs, rev. James Atkinson, The Christian in Society, I (Luther's Works, ed. James Atkinson, vol. 44), p. 207 (1966).

Colleges/Universities

It is evident that in democratic communities the interest of individuals, as well as the security of the commonwealth, demands that the education of the greater number should be scientific, commercial, and industrial, rather than literary.

Alexis de Tocqueville

Colleges/Universities

It is, Sir, as I have said, a small College, And yet, there are those who love it.

Daniel Webster, arguing the case of Dartmouth College before the Supreme Court, March 1818. These words are not in his formal argument in the official court record. They come from an account Chauncey A. Goodrich, professor at Yale, wrote to Rufus Choate, who quoted at length from it in his eulogy on Daniel Webster, given at Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire, July 27, 1853.—The Works of Rujus Choate, vol. 1, p. 516 (1862).The Dictionary of American Biography, vol. 10, p. 588, notes that "with consummate pathos he presented the case of the small college which he loved as the case of every college in the land. When on Feb. 2, 1819, the Court in its decision completely upheld the college and its counsel….Webster became in the opinion of many the foremost lawyer of the time."

Webster served in Congress as a representative from New Hampshire, 1813-1817, and from Massachusetts, 1823-1827, and as a senator from Massachusetts, 1827-1841 and 1845-1850.

Comfort

Of all created comforts, God is the lender; you are the borrower, not the owner.

Rutherford

Comfort

Sprinkled along the waste of years

Full many a soft green isle appears;

Pause where we may upon the desert road,

Some shelter is in sight, some sacred safe abode.

John Keble

Comfort

The great destroyers of nations and men are comfort, plenty and security.

Author Unknown

Commandments

If God would have wanted us to live in a permissive society He would have given us Ten Suggestions and not Ten Commandments.

Author Unknown

Commitments

Convince a man of what he wants, and he'll move heaven and earth to get it.

Author Unknown

Commitments

I am not bound to win, but I am bound to be true. I am not bound to succeed but I am bound to live the best life that I have. I must stand with anybody that stands right and part from him when he goes wrong.

Abraham Lincoln

Commitments

The superior man needs but one word; the swift horse needs but one lash.

Confucius

Commitments

Whatsoever task thou assigneth me to do, sooner I would suffer a thousand deaths than to forsake it.

Socrates

Commitments

A winner makes commitment. A loser makes promises.

Author Unknown

Committees

A committee is a group of the unwilling, chosen from the unfit, to do the unnecessary.

Author unknown. Attributed to various people.

Committees

A committee is a thing which takes a week to do what one good man can do in an hour.

Elbert Hubbard

Proverbs

A close mouth catches no flies.

Cervantes

Proverbs

A hair of the dog that bit us.

John Heywood

Proverbs

A hard beginning maketh a good ending.

John Heywood

Proverbs

A man may well bring a horse to the water, But he cannot make him drink without he will.

John Heywood

Proverbs

A penny for your thought.

John Heywood

Proverbs

An ill wind that bloweth no man to good.

John Heywood

Proverbs

As well look for a needle in a bottle of hay.

Cervantes

Proverbs

Birds of a feather will gather together.

Robert Burton

Proverbs

Children and fools cannot lie.

John Heywood

Proverbs

Do not count your chickens before they are hatched.

Aesop

Proverbs

Familiarity breeds contempt.

Aesop

Proverbs

Flesh of thy flesh, nor yet bone of thy bone.

Guillaume

Proverbs

Hold their noses to the grindstone.

John Heywood

Proverbs

I begin to smell a rat.

Cervantes

Proverbs

I know on which side my bread is buttered.

John Heywood

Proverbs

I'll turn over a new leaf.

Cervantes

Proverbs

Ill blows the wind that profits nobody.

William Shakespeare

Proverbs

Let none presume to tell me that the pen is preferable to the sword.

Cervantes

Proverbs

Living from hand to mouth.

Guillaume

Proverbs

Many hands make light work.

John Heywood

Proverbs

Nothing is impossible to a willing heart.

John Heywood

Proverbs

Now for good luck, cast an old shoe after me.

John Heywood

Proverbs

Penny wise, pound foolish.

Robert Burton

Proverbs

Put your shoulder to the wheel.

Aesop

Proverbs

Rome was not built in one day.

John Heywood

Proverbs

She looketh as butter would not melt in her mouth.

John Heywood

Proverbs

Slow and steady wins the race.

Aesop

Proverbs

The gods help them that help themselves.

Aesop

Proverbs

There is no fool like an old fool.

Lyly

Proverbs

They can expect nothing but their labor for their pains.

Cervantes

Proverbs

To Rob Peter and pay Paul.

John Heywood

Proverbs

To tell tales out of school.

John Heywood

Proverbs

Two heads are better than one.

John Heywood

Proverbs

When the sky falleth we shall have larks.

John Heywood

Proverbs

When the steed is stolen, shut the stable door.

John Heywood

Proverbs

Why do you lead me a wild goose chase?

Cervantes

Proverbs

Why doth one man's yawning make another yawn?

Robert Burton

Proverbs

Within a stone's throw of it.

Cervantes

Proverbs

Wouldst thou both eat thy cake and have it?

George Herbert

Common Sense

Common sense in an uncommon degree is what the world calls wisdom.

Samuel T. Coleridge

Common Sense

Common sense is in medicine the master workman.

Peter Latham

Common Sense

Common sense is instinct, and enough of it is genius.

Henry Wheeler Shaw

Common Sense

Common sense is seeing things as they are, and doing things as they should be done.

Author Unknown

Common Sense

The cart has no place where a fifth wheel could be used.

Hervert Von Fritzlar

Communication

The most immutable barrier in nature is between one man's thoughts and another's.

William James

Communication

The most important thing in communication is to hear what isn't being said.

Peter F. Drucker

Communication

Though I'm anything but cleaver,

I could talk like that forever.

W. S. Gilbert

Communism

Communism is a hateful thing and a menace to peace and organized government; but the communism of combined wealth and capital, the outgrowth of overweening cupidity and selfishness, which insidiously undermines the justice and integrity of free institutions, is not less dangerous than the communism of oppressed poverty and toil, which, exasperated by injustice and discontent, attacks with wild disorder the citadel of rule.

Grover Cleveland

Annual Message to Congress, 1888.

Communism

Communism is a society where each one works according to his ability and gets according to his needs.

Pierre Joseph Proudhon

Communism

I do not believe in communism any more than you do but there is nothing wrong with the Communists in this country; several of the best friends I have got are Communists.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt, conversation with Representative Martin Dies at the White House, as reported by Dies.—Congressional Record, September 22, 1950, vol. 96, Appendix, p. A6832."The quote is exceedingly dubious; it is most unlikely that FDR would have said anything like it, even flippantly, to the zealous HUAC chairman, though he may have told Dies that he was exaggerating the size of the American communist movement."—Paul F. BoIler Jr., Quotemanship: The Use and Abuse of Quotations for Polemical and Other Purposes, chapter 8, p. 361 (1967).

Communism

It is necessary to be able to withstand all this, to agree to any and every sacrifice, and even—if need be—to resort to all sorts of stratagems, manoeuvres and illegal methods, to evasion and subterfuges in order to penetrate the trade unions, to remain in them, and to carry on Communist work in them at all costs.

Vladimir Ilich Lenin,"'Left-Wing' Communism, An Infantile Disorder" V. I. Lenin; Selected Works, vol. 10, p. 95 (1938).

Communism

It seems strangely difficult for some to realize that here in Asia is where the Communist conspirators have elected to make their play for global conquest, and that we have joined the issue thus raised on the battlefield; that here we fight Europe's war with arms while the diplomats there still fight it with words; that if we lose the war to communism in Asia the fall of Europe is inevitable, win it and Europe most probably would avoid war and yet preserve freedom. As you pointed out, we must win. There is no substitute for victory.

Douglas Macarthur, letter to Representative Joseph W. Martin, Jr., March 20, 1951.—Military Station in the Far East, hearings before the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Foreign Relations, United States Senate, 82d Congress, 1st session, part 1, p. 3544 (1951).

Communism

Just as Marx used to say about the French "Marxists" of the late 'seventies: "All I know is that I am not a Marxist."

Friedrich Engels, letter to Conrad Schmidt, August 3, 1890.—Earl Marx and Frederick Engels, Selected Correspondence, 1846-1895, trans. Donna Torr, p. 472 (1942).

Communism

People are very much wrought up about the Communist bugaboo.

President Harry S. Truman, letter to George H. Earle, former governor of Pennsylvania, received February 28, 1947.—The New York Times, April 3, 1947, p. 17, quoting Earle.That same day, in response to a question at his press conference, Truman said, "I am not worried about the Communist Party taking over the Government of the United States, but I am against a person, whose loyalty is not to the Government of the United States, holding a Government job. They are entirely different things. I am not worried about this country ever going Communist. We have too much sense for that."—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Harry S. Truman, 1947, p. 191.

Communism

The trusts and combinations—the communism of pelf….

Grover Cleveland

Letter to Rep. T. C. Catchings, August 1, 1894.

Communism

They say that the Soviet delegates smile. That smile is genuine. It is not artificial. We wish to live in peace, tranquility. But if anyone believes that our smiles involve abandonment of the teaching of Marx, Engels and Lenin he deceives himself poorly. Those who wait for that must wait until a shrimp learns to whistle.

Nikita S. Khrushchev, impromptu speech at a dinner for visiting East German dignitaries, Moscow, September 17, 1955, as reported by The New York Times, September 18, 1955, p. 19.

Communism

They [capitalists] will furnish credits which will serve us for the support of the Communist Party in their countries and, by supplying us materials and technical equipment which we lack, will restore our military industry necessary for our future attacks against our suppliers. To put it in other words, they will work on the preparation of their own suicide.

Vladimir Ilich Lenin, as reported by I. U. Annenkov in an article entitled, "Remembrances of Lenin," Novyi Zhurnal / New Review, September 1961, p. 147.Annenkov recounts (pp. 144-47) a visit to the Moscow Institute of V. I. Lenin shortly after Lenin's death, where he examined a number of Lenin manuscripts consisting principally of short and fragmentary notes, some of which were so interesting that he copied them. This Russian-language journal is published in New York City.

The popular and widely-quoted paraphrase, "The capitalists are so hungry for profits that they will sell us the rope to hang them with," has often been considered spurious because it had not been found in Lenin's published works.

Communism

We don't propose to sit here in our rocking chair with our hands folded and let the Communists set up any government in the Western Hemisphere.

President Lyndon B. Johnson, remarks to the 10th National Legislative Conference, Building and Construction Trades Department, AFL-CIO, May 3, 1965.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Lyndon B. Johnson, 1965, book 1, p. 480.

Communism

What is a communist? One who has yearnings

For equal division of unequal earnings.

Idler or bungler, or both, he is willing

To fork out his copper and pocket a shilling.

Ebenezer Elliott (1781-1849)

Poetical Works (1846), "Epigram"

Communism

[Cold war demonology] is a color word, and I probably should not have used it. It means just sort of interpreting everything in terms of a great communist conspiracy and in terms of communists being supermen who somehow can overcome the great problems of differences between national units, and so on. They are not supermen at all. They are men with feet of clay which extend almost all the way up to their brains.

Edwin O. Reischauer, former U.S. ambassador to Japan, testimony at hearing, January 31, 1967.—Asia, the Pacific, and the United States, hearing before the Committee on Foreign Relations, United States Senate, 90th Congress, 1st session, p. 19 (1967).

Companions

In the society of thine equals thou shalt enjoy more pleasure; in the society of thy superiors thou shall find most profit.

Francis Quarles

Companions

When we live habitually with the wicked, we become either their victim or their disciple; when we associate, with the virtuous men, we form ourselves in imitation of their virtues, or at least some of our faults.

Agapet

Compassion

To pity distress is but human; to relieve it is Godlike.

Horace Mann

Complacency

If it works, it's obsolete.

Air Force

Complacency

If two people agree 100% of the time on any given topic, at least one of them is not thinking.

Author Unknown

Complaints

Constant complaint is the poorest sort of pay for all the comforts we enjoy.

Benjamin Franklin

Complaints

There are persons who constantly clamor. They complain of oppression, speculation, and pernicious influence of wealth. They cry out loudly against banks and corporations, and a means by which small capitalists become united in order to produce important and beneficial results. They carry on mad hostility against all established institutions. They would choke the fountain of human civilization.

Daniel Webster

Compliments

It is a great mistake for men to give up paying compliments, for when they give up saying what is charming, they give up thinking what is charming.

Oscar Wilde

Compliments

Though compliments should arise naturally out of the occasion, they should not appear to be prompted by the spur of it, for then they seem hardly spontaneous. Applaud a man's speech at the moment when he sits down and he will take your compliment as exacted by the demands of common civility; but let some space intervene, and then show him that the merits of his speech have dwelt with you, and he will remember your compliment for a much longer time than you have remembered his speech.

Sir Henry Taylor

Compliments

Compliments and flattery oftenest excite my contempt by the pretension they imply; for who is he that assumes to flatter me? To compliment often implies an assumption of superiority in the complimenter. It is, in fact, a subtle detraction.

Henry David Thoreau

Compliments

I can live for a month on a day's compliments.

Mark Twain

Compromise

All legislation, all government, and all society is founded upon the principle of mutual concession, politeness, comity, courtesy; upon these everything is based…. Let him who elevates himself above humanity, above its weaknesses, its infirmities, its wants, its necessities, say, if he pleases, I will never compromise; but let no one who is not above the frailties of our common nature disdain compromises.

Henry Clay

Quoted By Agar, The Price Of Union.

Compromise

Compromise makes a good umbrella, but a poor roof; it is a temporary expedient, often wise in party politics, almost sure to be unwise in statesmanship.

James Russell Lowell

Compromise

Compromise used to mean that half a loaf was better than no bread. Among modern statesmen it really seems to mean that half a loaf is better than a whole loaf.

G. K. Chesterton, What's Wrong with the World, chapter 3, p. 18 (1910).

Compromise

He has joined the great majority.

Gaius Petronius [Petronius Arbiter]

Satyricon, 42

Compromise

I believe in friendly compromise. I said over in the Senate hearings that truth is the glue that holds government together. Compromise is the oil that makes governments go.

Representative Gerald R. Ford, remarks during hearings before the House Committee on the Judiciary, November 15, 1973.—Nomination of Gerald R. Ford to Be the Vice President of the United States, hearings before the Committee on the Judiciary, House of Representatives, 93d Congress, 1st session (1973).

Compromise

If you are not very clever you should be conciliatory.

Benjamin Disraeli, Endymion (vol. 20 of The Works of Benjamin Disraeli, Earl of Beaconsfield), chapter 85, p. 153 (1904, reprinted 1976). Originally published 1880.

Compromise

If you can't lick 'em, join 'em.

Attributed to Senator James E. Watson.

—Frank R. Kent, "Senator James E. Watson,"

The Atlantic Monthly, February 1932, p. 188,

calls this "one of his favorite sayings."

Compromise

Nearly all legislation is the result of compromise.

Representative Joseph A. Cannon, maxim quoted in a tribute to Cannon on his retirement, The Sun, Baltimore, Maryland, March 4, 1923.—Congressional Record, March 4, 1923, vol. 64, p. 5714. "Uncle Joe" Cannon, who was Speaker of the House 1903-1911, served in the House for 46 years.

Compromise

THE HUNTER AND THE BEAR

The Story of a Perfect Compromise

The hunter sighted his quarry, and raised his rifle to fire. The bear, raising a paw, said, "Now just a minute friend; can't we talk this over like two rational, intelligent, progressive beings?" The hunter lowered his gun, and scratching his head replied, "What's to talk over?" "Well", said the bear, "for example, what do you want to shoot me for?" "That's very simple. I want a bear-skin coat". "And I, " said the bear, "merely want a good breakfast. Let's sit down together, I'm sure we can reach a common point of view that will satisfy us both". So they sat down together to work out an agreement. After a time the bear got up all alone. They had reached a compromise. The bear had his breakfast; the hunter had on his fur coat. You know where the hunter was. He was eaten alive by his compromise position. You will be eaten alive also, if you sacrifice your principles for any reason. THE END DOES NOT JUSTIFY THE MEANS.

Author Unknown

Compromise

The cause for which the battle is waged is comprised within lines clearly and distinctly defined. It should never be compromised. It is the people's cause.

Grover Cleveland

Annual Message to Congress, 1888.

Compromise

There isn't such a reasonable fellow in the world, to hear him talk. He [Tom Brown] never wants anything but what's right and fair; only when you come to settle what's right and fair, it's everything he wants, and nothing that you want. And that's his idea of a compromise.

Thomas Hughes, Tom Brown's Schooldays, part 2, chapter 2, pp. 190-91 (1856, reprinted 1971).

Compromise

Those who are prone by temperament and character to seek sharp and clear-cut solutions of difficult and obscure problems, who are ready to fight whenever some challenge comes from a foreign Power have not always been right. On the other hand, those whose inclination is to bow their heads, to seek patiently and faithfully for peaceful compromise, are not always wrong. On the contrary, in the majority of instances they may be right, not only morally but from a practical standpoint. How many wars have been averted by patience and persisting good will! Religion and virtue alike lend their sanctions to meekness and humility, not only between men but between nations. How many wars have been precipitated by firebrands! How many misunderstandings which led to wars could have been removed by temporising! How often have countries fought cruel wars and then after a few years of peace found themselves not only friends but allies!

But the safety of the State, the lives and freedom of their own fellow countrymen, to whom they owe their position, make it right and imperative in the last resort, or when a final and definite conviction has been reached, that the use of force should not be excluded. If the circumstances are such as to warrant it, force may be used. And if this be so, it should be used under the conditions which are most favourable. There is no merit in putting off a war for a year if, when it comes, it is a far worse war or one much harder to win. These are tormenting dilemmas upon which mankind has throughout its history been so frequently impaled. Final judgment upon them can only be recorded by history in relation to the facts of the case as known to the parties at the time, and also as subsequently proved.

Winston Churchill, The Gathering Storm (vol. 1 of The Second World War), chapter 17, p. 320 (1948).

Conceit

A self-made man? Yes—and worships his creator.

William Cowper

Conceit

Compared to Velazquez I am nothing, but compared to contemporary painters, I am the most big genius of modern times…but modesty is not my specialty.

Salvador Dali

Conceit

Conceit causes more conversation than wit.

Duc de la Rochefoucauld

Conceit

Conceited men often seem a harmless kind of men, who, by an overwhelming self-respect, relieve others of the duty of respecting them at all.

Henry Ward Beecher

Conceit

Every man has a right to be conceited until he is successful.

Benjamin Disraeli

Conceit

Had I been present at the creation, I would have given some useful hints for the better ordering of the universe.

King Alfonso X of Spain

Conceit

I am incredibly eager…that the history which you are writing should give prominence to my name and praise it frequently.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

Conceit

If other people are going to talk, conversation becomes impossible.

James McNeill Whistler

Conceit

Perfection is such a nuisance that I often regret having cured myself of using tobacco.

Emile Zola

Conceit

Self conceit may lead to self destruction.

Aesop

Conceit

There are people who say I have never really done anything wrong in my life; of course, they only say it behind my back.

Oscar Wilde

Conceit

There cannot be a God because, if there were one, I would not believe that I was not He.

Friedrich Nietzsche

Conceit

There is great skill in knowing how to conceal one's skill.

Francois, Duc de la Rochefoucauld

Reflections; or, Sentences and Moral Maxims, 245

Conceit

To love oneself is the beginning of a lifelong romance.

Oscar Wilde

Conceit

To my extreme mortification, I grow wiser every day.

George Gordon, Lord Byron

Conceit

What is the first business of one who practices philosophy? To get rid of self-conceit. For it is impossible for anyone to begin to learn that which he thinks he already knows.

Epictetus

Discourses, II, 17

Conceit

When I went to America I had two secretaries, one for autographs, the other for locks of hair. Within six months the one had died of writer's cramp, the other was completely bald.

Oscar Wilde

Conceit

Whenever nature leaves a hole in a person's mind, she generally plasters it over with self-conceit.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Condescension

'Tis looking downward makes one dizzy.

Robert Browning

Confession

Confession of our faults is the next thing to innocence.

Publilius Syrus

Confession

I do plainly and ingenuously confess that I am guilty of corruption, and do renounce all defense. I beseech your Lordships to be merciful to a broken reed.

Francis Bacon

On being charged by Parliament with corruption in the

exercise of his office

Confidence

Confidence is contagious. So is lack of confidence

Vince Lombardi

Conformity

One dog barks at something, and a hundred bark at the sound.

Confucius

Conformity

Our dangers, as it seems to me, are not from the outrageous but from the conforming; not from those who rarely and under the lurid glare of obloquy upset our moral complaisance, or shock us with unaccustomed conduct, but from those, the mass of us, who take their virtues and their tastes, like their shirts and their furniture, from the limited patterns which the market offers.

Learned Hand, "The Preservation of Personality," commencement address at Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, June 2, 1927.—Hand, The Spirit of Liberty, ed. Irving Dilliard, p. 26 (1959).

Conformity

Persecution in intellectual countries produces a superficial conformity, but also underneath an intense, incessant, implacable doubt.

George F. Baer

The Metaphysical Basis of Toleration, Contemporary Review, April, 1874.

Congress/Congressmen

A few years ago Gen. Francis Marion Cockrell, for thirty consecutive years a prominent Senator from Missouri, denominated the United States Senate as "the greatest legislative body in the world," whereupon Senator John C. Spooner of Wisconsin, an eminent constitutional lawyer and considerable of a wit, said: "The Senate is not the greatest legislative body in the world. It is one of the branches of, I think, perhaps the greatest legislative body in the world, and the Senate may be the greatest part of the greatest legislative body in the world. I am not disposed to dispute that. We all admit that ourselves."

Representative Champ Clark, My Quarter Century of American Politics, vol. 1, p. 190 (1920). Unverified.Clark was Speaker of the House 1911-1919.

Congress/Congressmen

A jackass can kick a barn down, but it takes a carpenter to build one.

Representative Sam Rayburn, during filmed conversation with reporters, c. 1953.—"Speak, Mister Speaker," p. 138 (1978).

Congress/Congressmen

And kid Congress and the Senate, don't scold em. They are just children thats never grown up. They dont like to be corrected in company. Dont send messages to em, send candy.

Will Rogers, The Autobiography of Will Rogers, ed. Donald Day, p. 302 (1949). Advice sent to President-elect Franklin D. Roosevelt, December 2, 1932.

Congress/Congressmen

Congress in session is Congress on public exhibition, whilst Congress in its committee-rooms is Congress at work.

Woodrow Wilson, Congressional Government, A Study in American Politics, chapter 2, p. 69 (1981). First published in 1885.

Congress/Congressmen

Congress is so strange. A man gets up to speak and says nothing. Nobody listens—and then everybody disagrees.

Boris Marshalov, a Russian observer, after visiting the House of Representatives.—Senator Alexander Wiley, Laughing with Congress, p. 58 (1947).

Congress/Congressmen

During the American Revolution, George Washington used to call out for "beef, beef, beef,' but the Continental Congress called out for "pork, pork, pork."

Author unknown. Representative Clarence Cannon used to quote this comment of an unknown author. Unverified.

Congress/Congressmen

Has not the famous political fable of the Snake, with two Heads and one Body, some useful instruction contained in it? She was going to a brook to drink, and in her way was to pass thro' a hedge, a twig of which opposed her direct course; one Head chose to go on the right side of the Twig, the other on the left, so that time was spent in the contest, and, before the decision was completed, the poor snake died with thirst.

Benjamin Franklin, "Queries and Remarks Respecting Alterations in the Constitution of Pennsylvania," The Writings of Benjamin Franklin, ed. Albert H. Smyth, vol. 10, pp. 57-58 (1907).

Congress/Congressmen

I am now here in Congress….I am at liberty to vote as my conscience and judgment dictates to be right, without the yoke of any party on me, or the driver at my heels, with his whip in hand, commanding me to ge-wo-haw, just at his pleasure.

Representative David Crockett, A Narrative of the Life of David Crockett, final paragraph, p. 113 (1834).Earlier (pp. 18-19), he had discussed his lack of formal education: "But it will be a source of astonishment to many, who reflect that I am now a member of the American Congress—the most enlightened body of men in the world,—that at so advanced an age, the age of fifteen, I did not know the first letter in the book."

Congress/Congressmen

I have come to the conclusion that one useless man is called a disgrace, that two are called a law firm, and that three or more become a congress.

Peter Stone, book, and SHERMAN EDWARDS, music and lyrics, 1776, A Musical Play, scene I. John Adams speaks these lines to open the play.

Congress/Congressmen

I know well the coequal role of the Congress in our constitutional process. I love the House of Representatives. I revere the traditions of the Senate despite my too-short internship in that great body. As President, within the limits of basic principles, my motto toward the Congress is communication, conciliation, compromise, and cooperation.

President Gerald R. Ford, address to a joint session of Congress, August 12, 1974.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Gerald R. Ford, 1974, pp. 6-7.

Congress/Congressmen

I think I can say, and say with pride, that we have some legislatures that bring higher prices than any in the world.

Mark Twain (Samuel L. Clemens), "After-Dinner Speech," Sketches, New and Old (vol. 19 of The Writings of Mark Twain), p. 235 (1875).This speech was prepared for a Fourth of July gathering of Americans in London but was not given. General Schenck, the American ambassador decided to dispense with farther oratory after his own speech.

The phrase, "The finest Congress money can buy" has not been found in Twain's writings, and the sentence above is the closest to it that has been identified.

Congress/Congressmen

In legislation we all do a lot of "swapping tobacco across the lines."

Representative Joseph A. Cannon, maxim referring to a practice during the Civil War, quoted in a tribute to Cannon on his retirement."Mr. Cannon has told how he put through an appropriation for the entertainment of Prince Henry of Prussia when that foreign visitor came over years ago. He prearranged with Oscar W. Underwood, then in the House, that he would propose the appropriation late in the afternoon, when the House attendance was slim. Mr. Underwood, representing objecting Democrats, was to kick strenuously for a time about the cost of entertaining the prince; then Underwood was reluctantly to withdraw his opposition, the chances being no other Democrat would take it up. The 'Swapping of tobacco' across the aisles worked and the appropriation went through. "—The Sun, Baltimore, Maryland, March 4, 1923; Congressional Record, March 4, 1923, vol. 64, p. 5714. "Uncle Joe" Cannon, who was Speaker of the House 1903-1911, served in the House for 46 years.

Congress/Congressmen

It could probably be shown by facts and figures that there is no distinctly native American criminal class except Congress.

Mark Twain (Samuel L. Clemens), Following the Equator vol. 1 (vol. 5 of The Writings of Mark Twain), chapter 8, epigraph, p. 98 (1897, reprinted 1968).

Congress/Congressmen

It has always been my ambition since childhood to live such a life that one day my fellow citizens would call me to membership in this popular branch of the greatest lawmaking body in the world. Out of their confidence and partiality they have done this. It is now my sole purpose here to help enact such wise and just laws that our common country will by virtue of these laws be a happier and a more prosperous country. I have always dreamed of a country which I believe this should be and will be, and that is one in which the citizenship is an educated and patriotic people, not swayed by passion and prejudice, and a country that shall know no East, no West, no North, no South, but inhabited by a people liberty loving, patriotic, happy, and prosperous, with its lawmakers having no other purpose than to write such just laws as shall in the years to come be of service to human kind yet unborn. (Applause]

Representative Sam Rayburn, maiden speech in the House, May 6, 1913, Congressional Record, vol. 50, p. 1249.He was echoing Henry Clay's famous words, "I know no South, no North, no East, no West to which I owe any allegiance. I owe allegiance to two sovereignties, and only two;….My allegiance is to this Union and to my State."—Clay, remarks in the Senate, February 14, 1850, Congressional Globe, vol. 19, p. 368.

Congress/Congressmen

Let me make it clear that I do not assert that a President and the Congress must on all points agree with each other at all times. Many times in history there has been complete disagreement between the two branches of the Government, and in these disagreements sometimes the Congress has won and sometimes the President has won. But during the Administration of the present President we have had neither agreement nor a clear-cut battle.

Franklin D. Roosevelt, governor of New York, campaign address before the Republican-for-Roosevelt League, New York City, November 3, 1932.—The Public Papers and Addresses of Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1928-1932, p. 857 (1938).

Congress/Congressmen

Lobbyists are in many cases expert technicians and capable of explaining complex and difficult subjects in a clear, understandable fashion. They engage in personal discussions with members of Congress in which they can explain in detail the reasons for positions they advocate…. Because our congressional representation is based on geographical boundaries, the lobbyists who speak for the various economic, commercial, and other functional interests of this country serve a very useful purpose and have assumed an important role in the legislative process.

Senator John F. Kennedy, "To Keep the Lobbyist Within Bounds," The New York Times Magazine, February 19, 1956.—Congressional Record, March 2, 1956, vol. 102, pp. 3802-3.

Congress/Congressmen

One of the standing jokes of Congress is that the new Congressman always spends the first week wondering how he got there and the rest of the time wondering how the other members got there.

Author unknown.—Saturday Evening Post, November 4, 1899, p. 356.

Congress/Congressmen

So when all the yielding and objections is over, the other Senator said, "I object to the remarks of a professional joker being put into the Congressional Record." Taking a dig at me, see? They didn't want any outside fellow contributing. Well, he had me wrong. Compared to them I'm an amateur and the thing about my jokes is that they don't hurt anybody. You can say they're not funny or they're terrible or they're good or whatever it is, but they don't do no harm. But with Congress—every time they make a joke it's a law. And every time they make a law it's a joke.

Will Rogers.—P J. O'Brien, Will Rogers, Ambassador of Good Will, Prince of Wit and Wisdom, chapter 9, pp. 156-57 (1935).

Congress/Congressmen

The rich, the well-born, and the able, acquire an influence among the people that will soon be too much for simple honesty and plain sense, in a house of representatives. The most illustrious of them must, therefore, be separated from the mass, and placed by themselves in a senate; this is, to all honest and useful intents, an ostracism.

John Adams, A Defence of the Constitutions of Government of the United States of America, vol. 1 (vol. 4 of The Works of John Adams, ed. Charles Francis Adams), Preface, p. 290 (1851). First published in 1787.

Congress/Congressmen

Too many critics mistake the deliberations of the Congress for its decisions.

Speaker of the House Sam Rayburn, on the weekly radio broadcast, "Texas Forum of the Air," November 1, 1942.—Congressional Record, November 2, 1942, vol. 88, Appendix, p. A3866.

Congress/Congressmen

Too often critics seem more intent on seeking new ways to alter Congress than to truly learn how it functions. They might well profit from the advice of Thomas Huxley, who said a century ago: "Sit down before facts as a little child, be prepared to give up every preconceived notion—or you shall learn nothing."

Representative Gerald R. Ford, address at the University of Florida, Gainesville, November 3, 1966.—Gerald R. Ford, Selected Speeches, ed. Michael V. Doyle, p. 114 (1973).

Congress/Congressmen

A jay hasn't got any more principle than a Congressman. A jay will lie, a jay will steal, a jay will deceive, a jay will betray; and four times out of five, a jay will go back on his solemnest promise.

Mark Twain (Samuel L. Clemens), A Tramp Abroad, vol. 1 (vol. 3 of The Writings of Mark Twain), chapter 2, pp. 25-26 (1879, reprinted 1968).

Congress/Congressmen

Had Grant been a Congressman one would have been on one's guard, for one knew the type. One never expected from a Congressman more than good intentions and public spirit. Newspaper-men as a rule had no great respect for the lower House; Senators had less; and Cabinet officers had none at all. Indeed, one day when Adams was pleading with a Cabinet officer for patience and tact in dealing with Representatives, the Secretary impatiently broke out: "You can't use tact with a Congressman! A Congressman is a hog! You must take a stick and hit him on the snout!"

Henry Adams, The Education of Henry Adams, ed. Ernest Samuels, chapter 17, p. 261 (1973). Originally published in 1906.The secretary who made the remark "may well have been Adams's friend, Secretary of the Interior Jacob Dolson Cox," according to note 18 on p. 617.

Adams was the son of Charles Francis Adams, the grandson of John Quincy Adams, and the great-grandson of John Adams.

Congress/Congressmen

He votes as a Southern man, and votes sectionally; I am also a Southern man, but vote nationally on national questions.

Senator Thomas Hart Benton.—Theodore Roosevelt, Thomas Hart Benton, chapter 15, p. 349 (1897, reprinted 1968).

Congress/Congressmen

I never know what South Carolina thinks of a measure. I never consult her. I act to the best of my judgment, and according to my conscience. If she approves, well and good. If she does not, or wishes any one to take my place, I am ready to vacate. We are even.

John C. Calhoun, Representative and Senator.—Walter J. Miller, "Calhoun as a Lawyer and Statesman,' part 2, The Green Bag, June 1899, p. 271. Although Miller states "I will cite his own words,' this quotation has not been verified in Calhoun's writings.

Congress/Congressmen

I take the view that equality is equality…and that I am a member of Congress as good as anybody else. As long as it is within the law, it'S not wrong…. If the law is wrong, change the law.

I do not do any more than any other member of the Congress, but by the grace of God, I'll not do less!

Representative Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., press conference and subsequent interview, February 20, 1963.—Neil Hickey and Ed Edwin, Adam Clayton Powell and the Politics of Race, pp. 230-31 (1965).

Congress/Congressmen

One of the countless drawbacks of being in Congress is that I am compelled to receive impertinent letters from a jackass like you in which you say I promised to have the Sierra Madre mountains reforested and I have been in Congress two months and haven't done it. Will you please take two running jumps and go to hell.

Attributed to Representative John Steven McGroarty.—Senator John F. Kennedy Profiles in Courage, p. 10 (1956).McGroarty served in Congress 1935-1939.

Congress/Congressmen

The best legislator is the one who votes for all appropriations and against all taxes.

Attributed to Representative Walter P. Brownlow by his cousin, Louis B. Brownlow. Unverified.

Congress/Congressmen

The truth is being more and more realized by the public that, other things being equal or anywhere near equal, the value of the Representative or Senator increases in proportion to his length of service. A man must learn to be a Representative or Senator, just as he must learn to be a farmer, carpenter, blacksmith, merchant, engineer, lawyer, doctor, preacher, teacher, or anything else. Of course some men learn quicker than others—some of exceptional ability and powers of observation very speedily, and some not at all. The best plan for a constituency to pursue is to select a man of good sense, good habits, and perfect integrity, young enough to learn, and re-elect him so long as he retains his faculties and is faithful to his trust. Such a man grows into power and high position as surely as the sparks fly upward. As a rule, in both House and Senate, the best places go to men of long service, provided they are capable, Sober, industrious, vigilant, and punctual in the discharge of their duties. Ho man should be sent to either House of Congress solely to gratify his own ambition, but because he has qualifications for the position which he seeks—indeed, better qualifications than any of his opponents.

Representative Champ Clark, My Quarter Century of American Politics, vol. 1, p. 220 (1920).Champ Clark was Speaker of the House 1911-1919.

Congress/Congressmen

To my mind Judas Iscariot was nothing but a low, mean, premature Congressman.

Mark Twain (Samuel L. Clemens), letter to the editor, March 7, 1873.—New York Daily Tribune, March 10, 1873, p. 5.

Congress/Congressmen

We have been taught to regard a representative of the people as a sentinel on the watch-tower of liberty.

Senator Daniel Webster, remarks in the Senate, May 7, 1834.—The Writings and Speeches of Daniel Webster; vol. 7, p. 121 (1903).

Congress/Congressmen

You send me to Washington to represent you in the senate. But you do not send me there because you are interested in grave questions of national or international policy. When I come back to Arizona, you never ask me any questions about such policies; instead you ask me: "What about my pension?" or "What about that job for my son?" I am not in Washington as a statesman. I am there as a very well paid messenger boy doing your errands. My chief occupation is going around with a forked stick picking up little fragments of patronage for my constituents.

Attributed to Senator Henry Fountain Ashurst.—Thomas C. Donnelly, Rocky Mountain Politics, p. 283 (1940). Unverified.

Congress—House Of Representatives

Certainly, Gentlemen, it ought to be the happiness and glory of a representative to live in the strictest union, the closest correspondence, and the most unreserved communication with his constituents. Their wishes ought to have great weight with him; their opinions high respect; their business unremitted attention. It is his duty to sacrifice his repose, his pleasure, his satisfactions, to theirs,—and above all, ever, and in all cases, to prefer their interest to his own.

But his unbiased opinion, his mature judgment, his enlightened conscience, he ought not to Sacrifice to you, to any man, or to any set of men living. These he does not derive from your pleasure,—no, nor from the law and the Constitution. They are a trust from Providence, for the abuse of which he is deeply answerable. Your representative owes you, not his industry only, but his judgment; and he betrays, instead of serving you, if he sacrifices it to your opinion.

Edmund Burke, speech to the electors of Bristol, November 3, 1774.—The Works of the Right Honorable Edmund Burke, vol. 2, p. 95 (1899).

Congress—House Of Representatives

Don't try to go too fast. Learn your job. Don't ever talk until you know what you're talking about…. If you want to get along, go along.

Speaker of the House Sam Rayburn.—Neil MacNeil, Forge of Democracy, the House of Representatives, p. 129 (1963)."This was Rayburn'sù traditional advice to freshmen, many times repeated, and reflected his view of the House of Representatives" (note 13 to chapter 6, p. 461).

Congress—House Of Representatives

I've said many a time that I think the Un-American Activities Committee in the House of Representatives was the most un-American thing in America!

Harry S. Truman, third Radner Lecture, Columbia University, New York City, April 29, 1959.—Truman Speaks, p. 111 (1960).

Congress—House Of Representatives

In my many years as a Representative in Congress it is my observation that the district that is best represented is the district that is wise enough to select a man of energy, intelligence, and integrity and reelects him year after year. A man of this type and character serves more efficiently and effectively the longer he is returned by his people.

Speaker of the House Sam Rayburn, on the weekly radio broadcast, "Texas Forum of the Air," November 1, 1942.—Congressional Record, November 2, 1942, vol. 88, Appendix, p. A3866.

Congress—House Of Representatives

It is good to be back in the People's House. But this cannot be a real homecoming. Under the Constitution, I now belong to the executive branch. The Supreme Court has even ruled that I am the executive branch—head, heart, and hand.

President Gerald R. Ford, address to a joint session of Congress, August 12, 1974.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Gerald R. Ford, 1974, p. 6.

Congress—House Of Representatives

The House is composed of very good men, not shining, but honest and reasonably well-informed, and in time they will be found to improve, and not to be much inferior in eloquence, science, and dignity, to the British Commons. They are patriotic enough, and I believe there are more stupid (as well as more shining) people in the latter in proportion.

Fisher Ames, letter to George Richard Minot, May 27, 1789.—Works of Fisher Ames, ed. Seth Ames, vol. 1, p. 45 (1854).Ames was a Federalist Representative from Massachusetts at the first Congress, which met in New York City. Representative Hale Boggs quoted Ames at the end of the first session of the 89th Congress: "You know, Mr. Speaker, a long time ago there was a congressman here from the great State of Massachusetts. His name was Fisher Ames. Speaking of the Congress which met in 1789 he wrote a letter to his constituents and this is what he said about his colleagues who served in the Congress of 1789 in describing them. He said: 'On the whole they were very good men, not shining, but honest and reasonably well informed.' I believe it is a very apt description because we come from the people and we are of the people, and, thank God, we have a system that makes that possible."—Congressional Record, October 22, 1965, vol. 111, p. 28566.

Congress—House Of Representatives

The House of Representatives, in some respects, I think, is the most peculiar assemblage in the world, and only a man who has had long experience there can fully know its idiosyncrasies. It is true we engage in fierce combat, we are often intense partisans, sometimes we are unfair, not infrequently unjust, brutal at times, and yet I venture to say that, taken as a whole, the House is sound at heart; nowhere else will you find such a ready appreciation of merit and character, in few gatherings of equal size is there so little jealousy and envy. The House must be considerate of the feelings of its members; there is a certain courtesy that has to be observed; a man may be voted a bore or shunned as a pest, and yet he must be accorded the rights to which he is entitled by virtue of being a representative of the people. On the other hand, a man may be universally popular, a good fellow, amusing and yet with these engaging qualities never get far. The men who have led the House whose names have become a splendid tradition to their successors, have gained prominence not through luck or by mere accident. They have had ability, at least in some degree; but more than that, they have had character.

Representative Joseph A. Cannon.—L. White Busby, Uncle Joe Cannon, p. 260 (1927). "Uncle Joe" Cannon, who was Speaker of the House from 1903-1911, served in the House for 46 years.

Congress—House Of Representatives

There is only one thing I want to say about Ohio that has a political tinge, and that is that I think a mistake has been made of recent years in Ohio in failing to continue as our representatives the same people term after term. I do not need to tell a Washington audience, among whom there are certainly some who have been interested in legislation, that length of service in the House and in the Senate is what gives influence.

President William Howard Taft, speech before the Ohio Society, Washington, D.C.—Quoted in the Congressional Record, May 23, 1916, vol. 53, p. 8527.

Congress—Senate

"Do you pray for the Senators, Dr. Hale?" someone asked the chaplain. "No, I look at the Senators and pray for the country."

Edward Everett Hale,

Senate chaplain.—Van Wyck Brooks, New England:

Indian Summer 1865-1915, p. 418, footnote (1940).

"The celebrated anecdote…is not so unambiguous as it appears…. There is no reason to doubt the authenticity of Hale's reply, but it should be understood within a framework of respect for the senators as well as concern for the country. He knew every one of them personally and regarded them, as he said in his preface to Prayers in The Senate (1904), as 'intelligent men, in very close daily intimacy with each other, in the discharge of a common duty of the greatest importance.'"—John R. Adams, Edward Everett Hale, pp. 100-101 (1977).

Congress—Senate

I am going back to Yazoo City and to my old home on a rural free-delivery route. I want to get up again each morning as I hear the roosters crow. I want to pick flowers while the dew is still on them. Then, I want to come back and have my coffee and breakfast. Later on, if I am so fortunate as to have any left in these days, I want to stir myself a toddy whenever I feel that I would like one.

Through the middle of the day I will read books, putter around the place, and talk to my neighbors. At noon I will leisurely eat my dinner. After dinner I will read some more, and then late in the evening, I will eat supper—and notice that I call it supper, this last meal of the day. That is what we call it in Mississippi.

And as night and the time for bed approaches, I will listen to the greatest chorus of voices that man ever heard, music that will charm me and make me ready for repose—the voices of my mocking birds, trilling from the trees.

In that way I want to live the rest of my life. And when the end comes, I hope to be carried out of the house by my neighbors and laid to rest among my people.

Now some may say that it is not a very wonderful future—all of this I have mapped out for myself—but I say there is merit in calm retirement. Right now I feel that it is more a real life than being a Senator of the United States who serves his people by joining in the petty squabbles that occupy so much time of the Senate today. I may have grown cynical from long service, but this is a tendency I do not like, and I sometimes think I'd rather be a dog and bay at the moon than stay in the Senate another Six years and listen to it.

Perhaps it is a sign that I ought to retire. For retirement brings repose, and repose allows a kindly judgment of all things. As for me, it shall also mean a calm in which to make peace with myself and a season to spend in the quiet of my home and in the friendship of my neighbors.

Senator John Sharp Williams, farewell to his friends, at a dinner organized by the Mississippi Society of Washington, D.C., honoring him shortly before his retirement from the Senate on March 4, 1923. This is sometimes referred to as the "mocking bird speech."—William Norwood Brigance, Classified Speech Models, pp. 274-75 (1928).Sharp's obituary reported an earlier use of the hound dog metaphor. He said to the Senate after it doomed Wilson's League of Nations proposal: "I'd rather be a hound dog and bay at the moon from my Mississippi plantation than remain in the United States Senate."—The Commercial Appeal, Memphis, Tennessee, September 29, 1932, p. 2.

Congress—Senate

I fear the vermin that shall undermine

Senate and citadel and school and shrine.

Edwin Markham, "The Vermin in the Dark," stanza 5, lines 1 and 2, The Speaker vol. 6, no. 3, 1911, p. 249.

Congress—Senate

In order to judge of the form to be given to this institution [the Senate], it will be proper to take a view of the ends to be served by it. These were,—first, to protect the people against their rulers, secondly, to protect the people against the transient impressions into which they themselves might be led.

James Madison, debates in the Constitutional Convention, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, June 26, 1787.—Madison, Journal of the Federal Convention, ed. E. H. Scott, pp. 241-42 (1893).

Congress—Senate

No man, however strong, can serve ten years as schoolmaster, priest, or Senator, and remain fit for anything else.

Henry Adams, The Education of Henry Adams, ed. Ernest Samuels, chapter 7, p. 102 (1974). First published in 1906.Adams was the son of Charles Francis Adams, grandson of John Quincy Adams, and great-grandson of John Adams.

Congress—Senate

The Senate is a place filled with goodwill and good intentions, and if the road to hell is paved with them, then it's a pretty good detour.

Senator Hubert H. Humphrey, as reported in Newsweek, January 23, 1978, p. 23.

Congress—Senate

The Senate of the United States has been both extravagantly praised and unreasonably disparaged, according to the predisposition and temper of its various critics…. The truth is, in this case as in so many others, something quite commonplace and practical. The Senate is just what the mode of its election and the conditions of public life in this country make it.

Woodrow Wilson, Congressional Government, A Study in American Politics, chapter 4, p. 135 (1981). Originally published in 1885.

Congress—Senate

There is a tradition that, on his return from France, Jefferson called Washington to account at the breakfast-table for having agreed to a second chamber. "Why," asked Washington, "did you pour that coffee into your saucer?" "To cool it," quoth Jefferson. "Even so," said Washington, "we pour legislation into the senatorial saucer to cool it."

Moncure D. Conway, Omitted Chapters of History Disclosed in the Life and Papers of Edmund Randolph, p. 91 (1888). This story is probably apocryphal.

Congress—Senate

Two generations ago, Gladstone called the Senate of the United States "that remarkable body, the most remarkable of all the inventions of modern politics."

George H. Haynes, The Senate of the United States, Its History and Practice, Preface, p. Vii (1938). The attribution to William E. Gladstone is unverified.

Congress—Senate

We have been through this biennial convulsion four or five different times over the past 10 or 12 years, and now it appears that we are going through this quiet agony all over again.

Senator Everett M. Dirksen, remarks in the Senate on a resolution to amend Senate Rule 22 (cloture), January 11, 1967, Congressional Record, vol. 113, p. 182.

Conscience

A good conscience is a continual Christmas.

Benjamin Franklin

Conscience

A good conscience is to the soul what health is to the body; it preserves a constant ease and serenity within us, and more than countervails all the calamities and afflictions that can possibly befall us.

Joseph Addison

Conscience

A man's own conscience is his sole tribunal, and he should care no more for that phantom "opinion" than he should fear meeting a ghost if he crossed the churchyard at dark.

Edward G. Bulwer-Lytton

Conscience

And leaves the private conscience for the guide.

John Dryden

Conscience

Conscience has no more to do with gallantry than it has with politics.

Richard Sheridan

Conscience

Conscience is a God to all mortals.

Menander

Monostikoi [Single Lines]

Conscience

Conscience is a small inner voice that doesn't speak your language.

Merit Crossword Puzzles

Conscience

Conscience is but a word that cowards use,

Devis'd at first to keep the stong in awe.

William Shakespeare

King Richard III, V, iii, 310

Conscience

Conscience is the voice of the soul; the passions are the voice of the body.

Jean Jacques Rousseau

Conscience

Conscience was born when man had shed his fur, his tail, his pointed ears.

Sir Richard Burton

Conscience

He will easily be content and at peace whose conscience is pure.

Thomas A. Kempis

Conscience

How could a state be governed…if every individual remained free to obey or not to obey the law according to his private opinion?

Thomas Hobbes

Conscience

I am more afraid of my own heart than of the pope and all his cardinals. I have within me the great pope, Self.

Martin Luther

Conscience

Labor to keep alive in your breast that little spark of celestial fire called conscience.

George Washington

Conscience

My conscience hath a thousand several tongues,

And every tongue brings in a several tale,

And every tale condemns me for a villain.

William Shakespeare

King Richard III, V, iii, 194

Conscience

One that will not plead that cause wherein his tongue must be confuted by his conscience.

Thomas Fuller

The Holy State and the Profane State. The Good Advocate

Conscience

People who wrestle with their consciences usually go for two falls out of three.

LA Times Syndicate

Conscience

So my conscience chide me not, I am ready for Fortune as she wills.

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy, Canto XV, 91

Consequences

If you prick us, do we not bleed? if you tickle us, do we not laugh? if you poison us, do we not die? and if you wrong us, shall we not revenge?

William Shakespeare

The Merchant Of Venice, III, i, 65

Consequences

Disease is the retribution of outraged Nature.

Hosea Ballou

Consequences

Everybody, soon or late, must sit down to the harvest of consequences.

Author Unknown

Conservation

Conservation and rural-life policies are really two sides of the same policy; and down at bottom this policy rests upon the fundamental law that neither man nor nation can prosper unless, in dealing with the present, thought is steadily taken for the future.

Theodore Roosevelt, "Rural Life," American Problems (vol. 16 of The Works of Theodore Roosevelt, national ed.), chapter 20, p. 146 (1926). Originally appeared in The Outlook, August 27, 1910.

Conservation

Here in the United States we turn our rivers and streams into sewers and dumping-grounds, we pollute the air, we destroy forests, and exterminate fishes, birds, and mammals—not to speak of vulgarizing charming landscapes with hideous advertisements. But at last it looks as if our people were awakening. Many leading men, Americans and Canadians, are doing all they can for the Conservation movement.

Theodore Roosevelt, "Our Vanishing Wildlife," Literary Essays (vol. 12 of The Works of Theodore Roosevelt, national ed.), chapter 46, p. 420 (1926). Originally appeared in The Outlook, January 25, 1913.

Conservation

Nihil [or Ne quid] nimis.

Nothing in excess.

Anonymous Latin Saying

Conservation

Not one cent for scenery.

Representative Joseph A. Cannon, squelching a request for funds for some modest Federal undertaking in conservation.—Blair Bolles, Tyrant from Illinois, p. 119 (1951). "Uncle Joe" Cannon, who was Speaker of the House 1903-1911, served in the House for 46 years.

President Lyndon B. Johnson quoted Cannon at the signing ceremony making Assateague Island a national seashore area, September 21, 1965: "Conservation has been in eclipse in this country ever since Theodore Roosevelt's day. It had barely gotten off the ground when Uncle Joe Cannon, the Speaker of the House in those days, issued his ultimatum: 'Not 1 cent for scenery.' Well, today we are repealing Cannon's law. We are declaring a new doctrine of conservation."—Congressional Record, September 21, 1965, vol. 111, p. 24540.

Conservation

The idea that our natural resources were inexhaustible still obtained, and there was as yet no real knowledge of their extent and condition. The relation of the conservation of natural resources to the problems of National welfare and National efficiency had not yet dawned on the public mind. The reclamation of arid public lands in the West was still a matter for private enterprise alone; and our magnificent river system, with its superb possibilities for public usefulness, was dealt with by the National Government not as a unit, but as a disconnected series of pork-barrel problems, whose only real interest was in their effect on the reelection or defeat of a Congressman here and there—a theory which, I regret to say, still obtains.

Theodore Roosevelt, Theodore Roosevelt, An Autobiography (vol. 20 of The Works of Theodore Roosevelt, national ed.), chapter 11, p. 386 (1926).

Conservation

The nation behaves well if it treats the natural resources as assets which it must turn over to the next generation increased, and not impaired, in value.

Theodore Roosevelt, speech before the Colorado Live Stock Association, Denver, Colorado, August 39, 1910.—Roosevelt, The New Nationalism, p. 52 (1910).

This Sentence is one of many quotations inscribed on Cox Corridor II, a first floor House corridor, U.S. Capitol.

Conservation

We may not appreciate the fact; but a fact nevertheless it remains: we are living in a Golden Age, the most gilded Golden Age of human history—not only of past history, but of future history. For, as Sir Charles Darwin and many others before him have pointed out, we are living like drunken sailors, like the irresponsible heirs of a millionaire uncle. At an ever accelerating rate we are now squandering the capital of metallic ores and fossil fuels accumulated in the earth's crust during hundreds of millions of years. How long can this spending spree go on? Estimates vary. But all are agreed that within a few centuries or at most a few millennia, Man will have run through his capital and will be compelled to live, for the remaining nine thousand nine hundred and seventy or eighty centuries of his career as Homo sapiens, strictly on income. Sir Charles is of the opinion that Man will successfully make the transition from rich ores to poor ores and even sea water, from coal, oil, uranium and thorium to solar energy and alcohol derived from plants. About as much energy as is now available can be derived from the new sources—but with a far greater expense in man hours, a much larger capital investment in machinery. And the same holds true of the raw materials on which industrial civilization depends. By doing a great deal more work than they are doing now, men will contrive to extract the diluted dregs of the planet's metallic wealth or will fabricate non-metallic substitutes for the elements they have completely used up. In such an event, some human beings will still live fairly well, but not in the style to which we, the squanderers of planetary capital, are accustomed.

Aldous Huxley, "Tomorrow and Tomorrow and Tomorrow," Collected Essays, pp. 293-94 (1959). First published in Adonis and the Alphabet in 1956.

Conservatives

A conservative is a man who is too cowardly to fight and too fat to run.

Elbert Hubbard

Conservatives

A man who is not a Liberal at sixteen has no heart; a man who is not a Conservative at sixty has no head.

Benjamin Disraeli

Conservatives

But the world does move, and its motive power under God is the fearless thought and speech of those who dare to be in advance of their time….They are the masts and sails of the ship to which conservatism answers as ballast. The ballast is important—at times indispensable—but it would be of no account if the ship were not bound to go ahead.

Horace Greeley

Conservatives

Conservative, n. a statesman who is enamored of existing evils, as distinguished from the Liberal, who wishes to replace them with others.

Ambrose Bierce

Conservatives

Conservatives are not necessarily stupid, but most stupid people are conservatives.

John Stuart Mill

Conservatives

I am a Conservative to preserve all that is good in our constitution, a Radical to remove all that is bad. I seek to preserve property and to respect order, and I equally decry the appeal to the passions of the many or the prejudices of the few.

Benjamin Disraeli, campaign speech at High Wycombe, England, November 27, 1832.—Selected Speeches of the Late Right Honourable the Earl of Beaconsfield, ed. T. E. Kebbel, vol. 1, p. 8 (1882).

Conservatives

If a man is right he can't be too radical; if he is wrong, he can't be too conservative.

Josh Billings

Conservatives

Is not every man sometimes a radical in politics? Men are conservatives when they are least vigorous, or when they are most luxurious. They are conservatives after dinner, or before taking their rest; when they are sick, or aged. In the morning, or when their intellect or their conscience has been aroused; when they hear music, or when they read poetry, they are radicals.

Ralph Waldo Emerson, "New England Reformers," lecture read before the Church of the Disciples, Amory Hall, Boston, Massachusetts, March 3, 1844.—Essays: Second Series (vol. 3 of The Complete Works of Ralph Waldo Emerson), p. 272 (1903).

Conservatives

Liberalism is trust of the people tempered by prudence; Conservatism is distrust of the people tempered by fear.

William Ewart Gladstone

Conservatives

Stability is not immobility.

Prince Klemens von Metternich

Conservatives

The conservative in financial circles I have often described as a man who thinks nothing new ought ever to be adopted for the first time.

Frank A. Vanderlip, From Farm Boy to Financier, chapter 25, p. 257 (1935).

Conservatives

The desire for safety stands against every great and noble enterprise.

Tacitus

Consistency

A foolish consistency is the hobgoblin of little minds, adored by little statesmen and philosophers and divines. With consistency a great soul has simply nothing to do. He may as well concern himself with his shadow on the wall. Speak what you think now in hard words and tomorrow speak what tomorrow thinks in hard words again, though it contradict every thing you said today.—"Ah, so you shall be sure to be misunderstood."—Is it so bad then to be misunderstood? Pythagoras was misunderstood, and Socrates, and Jesus, and Luther, and Copernicus, and Galileo, and Newton, and every pure and wise spirit that ever took flesh. To be great is to be misunderstood.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Essays: First Series (1841)

Consistency

All things are the same—familiar in enterprise, momentary in endurance, coarse in substance. All things now are as they were in the day of those whom we have buried.

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

Meditations, IX, 14

Consistency

But I am constant as the northern star,

Of whose true-fix'd and resting quality

There is no fellow in the firmament.

William Shakespeare

Julius Caesar, III, i, 60

Consistency

Nothing that isn't a real crime makes a man appear so contemptible and little in the eyes of the world as inconsistency.

Joseph Addison

Consistency

The only man who can change his mind is a man that's got one.

Edward Noyes Westcott

Constitution/Bill Of Rights

But implicit in the history of the First Amendment is the rejection of obscenity as utterly without redeeming social importance.

Justice William J. Brennan, Jr., Reth v. United States, 354 U.S. 484 (1957).

This is often quoted as "utterly without redeeming social value." The decision also cited the test used in American courts in judging obscenity: "whether to the average person, applying contemporary community standards, the dominant theme of the material taken as a whole appeals to prurient interest" (p. 489).

"This [decision] was the first definition of obscenity offered by the court. It was modified in several subsequent decisions and finally replaced with another standard in the 1973 case of Miller v. Califomia. "—Congressional Quarterly Inc., The Supreme Court and Its Work, p. 215 (1981).

Constitution Of The United States

Amendments to the Constitution ought to not be too frequently made;… [if] continually tinkered with it would lose all its prestige and dignity, and the old instrument would be lost sight of altogether in a short time.

President Andrew Johnson, speech in front of the White House, February 22, 1866.—Andrew Johnson Papers, Library of Congress.

Constitution Of The United States

And lastly, let us provide in our constitution for its revision at stated periods.

Thomas Jefferson, letter to Samuel Kercheval, July 12, 1816.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Paul L. Ford, vol. 10, p. 43 (1899).This letter favored "progressive accomodation to progressive improvement," rather than following the examples of European monarchs, who "clung to old abuses."

Constitution Of The United States

As the British Constitution is the most subtile organism which has proceeded from the womb and the long gestation of progressive history, so the American Constitution is, so far as I can see, the most wonderful work ever struck off at a given time by the brain and purpose of man.

William E. Gladstone, "Kin Beyond Sea," The North American Review, September-October 1878, p. 185.

Constitution Of The United States

Don't interfere with anything in the Constitution. That must be maintained, for it is the only safeguard of our liberties.

Abraham Lincoln, speech at Kalamazoo, Michigan, August 27, 1856.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P. Basler, vol. 2, p. 366 (1953).

Constitution Of The United States

However the Court may interpret the provisions of the Constitution, it is still the Constitution which is the law and not the decision of the Court.

Charles Warren, The Supreme Court in United States History, vol. 2, chapter 38, pp. 748-49 (1932).

Constitution Of The United States

I always say, as you know, that if my fellow citizens want to go to Hell I will help them. It's my job.

Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, letter to Harold J. Laski, March 4, 1920.—Holmes-Laski Letters, ed. Mark DeWolfe Howe, vol. 1, p. 249 (1953).Max Lerner, The Mind and Faith of Justice Holmes, p. 222 (1954), said, "Holmes was exacting in construing a statute and latitudinarian in construing powers under the Constitution. He often said that there was nothing in the Constitution that prevented the country from going to hell if it chose to. But once a statute was clearly constitutional and it became a matter of construing it, Holmes put on his most scrupulous spectacles."

Constitution Of The United States

I confess that there are several parts of this Constitution which I do not at present approve, but I am not sure I shall never approve them. For having lived long, I have experienced many instances of being obliged by better information, or fuller consideration, to change opinions even on important subjects, which I once thought right, but found to be otherwise.

Benjamin Franklin, speech in the Constitutional Convention, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, September 17, 1787.—James Madison, Journal of the Federal Convention, ed. E. H. Scott, p. 741 (1893).

Constitution Of The United States

I hope your committee will not permit doubts as to constitutionality, however reasonable, to block the suggested legislation.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt, letter to Representative Samuel B. Hill, July 6, 1935.—The Public Papers and Addresses of Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1935, p. 298 (1938). "NOTE: The last paragraph of the foregoing letter to Congressman Hill should, of course, be read as a whole. When it is, it will be seen that the paragraph merely Sets forth the traditional rule which the Courts are supposed to follow in determining whether or not a statute is unconstitutional…. The letter to Congressman Hill was really an under-statement of this rule. During the past two years certain newspaper publishers and columnists have quoted only the last sentence of the letter, taken completely from its text, so as to give a wholly false impression of the letter. It is perhaps typical of methods now prevalent among certain newspaper owners and publishers" (p. 298). This note was written by FDR.

Constitution Of The United States

If in the opinion of the People, the distribution or modification of the Constitutional powers be in any particular wrong, let it be corrected by an amendment in the way which the Constitution designates. But let there be no change by usurpation; for though this, in one instance, may be the instrument of good, it is the customary weapon by which free governments are destroyed.

President George Washington, farewell address, September 19, 1796.—The Writings of George Washington, ed. John C. Fitzpatrick, vol. 35, p. 229 (1940)."The immediate occasion for Washington's Address was the necessity of eliminating himself from the contest for the Presidency…. There has been considerable controversy over the question of the authorship of the Address, and Hamilton's admirers claim that he was principally responsible for it."—Henry Steele Commager, ed., Documents of American History, 10th ed., vol. 1, p. 169 (1973), where additional details about the authorship may also be found. The farewell address was not delivered by Washington but was published in Claypoole's American Daily Advertiser Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, September 19, 1796. Fitzpatrick provides a lengthy account (Writings, vol. 35, footnote 84, pp. 214-15) of the publication of the address by Claypoole, and dates the address the 19th, from the date of its publication in the Advertiser although Commager and others date it the 17th.

Constitution Of The United States

In questions of power, then, let no more be heard of confidence in man, but bind him down from mischief by the chains of the Constitution.

Thomas Jefferson, from the fair copy of the drafts of the Kentucky Resolutions of 1798.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Paul L. Ford, vol. 7, p. 305 (1896).

Constitution Of The United States

In these sentiments, sir, I agree to this Constitution, with all its faults, if they are such; because I think a General Government necessary for us, and there is no form of

government, but what may be a blessing to the people if well administered; and believe further, that this is likely to be well administered for a course of years, and can only end in despotism, as other forms have done before it, when the people Shall become so corrupted as to need despotic government, being incapable of any other.

Benjamin Franklin, debates in the Constitutional Convention, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, September 17, 1787.—James Madison, Journal of the Federal Convention, ed. E. H. Scott, p. 742 (1893).

Constitution Of The United States

It is too probable that no plan we propose will be adopted. Perhaps another dreadful conflict is to be sustained. If to please the people, we offer what we ourselves disapprove, how can we afterwards defend our work? Let us raise a standard to which the wise and the honest can repair. The event is in the hand of God.

George Washington, remarks at the first Continental Congress, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, May 14, 1787.—Max Farrand, The Framing of the Constitution of the United States, p. 66 (1934).Washington was the presiding officer.

Constitution Of The United States

Most faults are not in our Constitution, but in ourselves.

Ramsey Clark, remarks at meeting sponsored by the Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions, New York City, November 11, 1970, to debate the merits of a new constitution drafted by Rexford Tugwell, as reported by The Washington Post, November 12, 1970, p. A2.Clark was attorney general 1967-1969.

Constitution Of The United States

Our chief danger arises from the democratic parts of our constitutions.

Edmund Jennings Randolph, governor of Virginia. Attributed to Randolph by James McHenry in his notes of the Constitutional Convention dated May 29, 1787.—The Records of the Federal Convention of 1787, rev. ed., ed. Max Farrand, vol. 1, p. 26 (1937).

Constitution Of The United States

Should the States reject this excellent Constitution, the probability is, an opportunity will never again offer to cancel another in peace—the next will be drawn in blood.

Attributed to George Washington.—Pennsylvania Journal and Weekly Advertiser November 14, 1787, p. 3, col. 1.Charles Warren, The Making of the Constitution, p. 717 (1937, originally published 1928), quotes this, with slight variation in wording, but adds in a footnote: "As Madison does not mention this speech, there is some doubt as to the accuracy of the report."

Constitution Of The United States

The Constitution is not a panacea for every blot upon the public welfare, nor should this Court, ordained as a judicial body, be thought of as a general haven for reform movements.

Justice John Marshall Harlan, dissenting, Reynolds, Judge, et al. v. Sims, et al., 377 U.S. 624-25 (1964).

Constitution Of The United States

The Constitution is the sole source and guaranty of national freedom.

President Calvin Coolidge, address accepting nomination as Republican candidate for president, Washington, D.C., August 4, 1924.—Coolidge, Address of Acceptance, p. 15 (1924).

Constitution Of The United States

The Constitution of the United States is a law for rulers and people, equally in war and peace, and covers with the shield of its protection all classes of men, at all times, and under all circumstances. No doctrine involving more pernicious consequences was ever invented by the wit of man than that any of its provisions can be suspended during any of the great exigencies of government. Such a doctrine leads directly to anarchy or despotism….

David Davis (1815-1886), U.S. Supreme Court justice

Ex-Parte Milligan, 4 Wallace 2 (1866)

Constitution Of The United States

The constitution, on this hypothesis, is a mere thing of wax in the hands of the judiciary, which they may twist and shape into any form they please.

Thomas Jefferson, letter to Judge Spencer Roane, September 6, 1819.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Andrew A. Lipscomb, vol. 15, p. 213 (1904).

Constitution Of The United States

The danger of disturbing the public tranquillity by interesting too strongly the public passions, is a still more serious objection against a frequent reference of constitutional questions to the decision of the whole society.

James Madison, The Federalist, ed. Benjamin F. Wright, no. 49, p. 349 (1961).

Constitution Of The United States

The principles of a free constitution are irrecoverably lost, when the legislative power is nominated by the executive.

Edward Gibbon, History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire, chapter 3, third paragraph, p. 33 (1838).

Constitution Of The United States

To live under the American Constitution is the greatest political privilege that was ever accorded to the human race.

Attributed to Calvin Coolidge, the White House, December 12, 1924. Unverified.

Constitution Of The United States

We are under a Constitution, but the Constitution is what the judges say it is, and the judiciary is the safeguard of our liberty and of our property under the Constitution.

Charles Evans Hughes,

speech before the Chamber of Commerce, Elmira, New York,

May 3, 1907.—Addresses and Papers of Charles Evans Hughes,

Governor of New York, 1906-1908, p. 139 (1908).

Constitution Of The United States

We have seen that the American Constitution has changed, is changing, and by the law of its existence must continue to change, in its substance and practical working even when its words remain the same.

James Bryce, The American Commonwealth, new ed., vol. 1, chapter 35, p. 401 (1924).

Constitution Of The United States

Whilst the last members were signing [the Constitution], Doctor FRANKLIN, looking towards the President's chair, at the back of which a rising sun happened to be painted, observed to a few members near him, that painters had found it difficult to distinguish in their art, a rising, from a setting, sun. I have, said he, often and often, in the course of the Session, and the vicissitudes of my hopes and fears as to its issue, looked at that behind the President, without being able to tell whether it was rising or setting; but now at length, I have the happiness to know, that it is a rising, and not a setting sun.

Benjamin Franklin, debates in the Constitutional Convention, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, September 17, 1787.—James Madison, Journal of the Federal Convention, ed. E. H. Scott, p. 763 (1893).

Constitution Of The United States

Your constitution is all sail and no anchor. As I said before, when a society has entered on this downward progress, either civilisation or liberty must perish. Either some Caesar or Napoleon will seize the reins of government with a strong hand; or your republic will be as fearfully plundered and laid waste by barbarians in the twentieth Century as the Roman Empire was in the fifth;—with this difference, that the Huns and Vandals who ravaged the Roman Empire came from without, and that your Huns and Vandals will have been engendered within your own country by your own institutions.

Thomas Babington Macaulay, letter to Henry Stephens RandaIl, May 23, 1857.—The Letters of Thomas Babington Macaulay, ed. Thomas Pinney, vol. 6, p. 96 (1981)."This letter, which naturally aroused great interest in the United States, was published in part as early as 1860 and has frequently been reprinted since, usually in the season of presidential elections or at other time of political crisis;….I give Harper's Magazine [February 1877] as the place of first full publication so far as I have been able to determine. For detailed history of the letter to 1925 see H. M. Lydenberg, 'What Did Macaulay Say about America?' Letters, Bulletin of the New York Public Library, XXIX (July 1925), 459-81" (vol. 6, footnote 1, p. 94).

"In his Journal for 23 May TBM writes: 'wrote an answer to a Yankee who is utterly unable to understand on what ground I can possibly dislike Jefferson's politics'" (footnote 3, p. 94).

Constitution/Bill Of Rights

An act of the legislature, repugnant to the constitution, is void.

John Marshall

Constitution/Bill Of Rights

Constitutions should consist only of general provisions; the reason is that they must necessarily be permanent, and that they cannot calculate for the possible change of things.

Alexander Hamilton

Constitution/Bill Of Rights

Freedom of thought and freedom of speech in our great institutions of learning are absolutely necessary for the preservation of our country. The moment that either is restricted, liberty begins to wither and die and the career of a nation after that time is downwards.

John Peter Altgeld

To George H. Shipley, September 25, 1897.

Constitution/Bill Of Rights

Our Constitution is in actual operation; everything appears to promise that it will last; but nothing in this world is certain but death and taxes.

Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790)

Letters, To M. Leroy of the French Academy of Sciences, 1789

Constitution/Bill Of Rights

The Constitution of the United States was made not merely for the generation that then existed, but for posterity—unlimited, undefined, endless, perpetual posterity.

Henry Clay

Constitution/Bill Of Rights

The question before us is, whether the class of persons described in the plea in abatement compose a portion of this people, and are constituent members of this sovereignty. We think they are not….They were at the time considered as a subordinate and inferior class of beings…they had no rights which the white man was bound to respect.

Chief Justice Roger B. Taney

Constitution/Bill Of Rights

Your Constitution is all sail and no anchor.

Thomas Babington Macaulay

Contempt

Contempt is not a thing to be despised.

Edmund Burke, "Letters on a Regicide Peace" letter 3, 1796-1797, The Works of the Right Honorable Edmund Burke, vol. 5, p. 436 (1899).

Contentment

Contentment, even in poverty, brings happiness; discontent is poverty, even in riches.

Confucius

Contentment

There are nine requisites for contented living:

HEALTH enough to make work a pleasure;

WEALTH enough to support your needs;

STRENGTH enough to battle with difficulties and forsake them;

GRACE enough to confess your sins and overcome them;

PATIENCE enough to toil until some good is accomplished;

CHARITY enough to see some good in your neighbor;

LOVE enough to move you to be useful and helpful to others;

FAITH enough to make real the things of God;

HOPE enough to remove all anxious fears concerning the future.

Goethe

Controversy

No great advance has ever been made in science, politics, or religion, without controversy.

Lyman Beecher

Conversation

A gossip is one who talks to you about other people. A bore is one who talks to you about himself. And a brilliant conversationalist is one who talks to you about yourself.

Dr. William King

Conversation

A single conversation across the table with a wise man is better than ten years' study of books.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Conversation

Don't talk unless you can improve the silence.

Vermont Proverb

Conversation

Inject a few raisins of conversation into the tasteless dough of existence.

O. Henry (William Sydney Porter)

Conversation

It takes a great man to make a good listener.

Sir Arthur Helps

Conversation

Many can argue; not many converse.

Bronson Alcott

Conversation

One of the best rules of conversation is never to say a thing which any of those present can reasonably wish had been left unsaid.

Jonathan Swift

Conversation

One of the reasons that we find so few persons rational and agreeable in conversation is that there is hardly a person who does not think more of what he wants to say than of his answer to what is said.

Duc de la Rochefoucauld

Conversation

The art of conversation consists as much of listening politely as in talking agreeably.

George Atwell

Conversation

The great secret of succeeding in conversation is to admire little, hear much; always to distrust our own reason, and sometimes that of our friends; never to pretend to wit, but to make that of others appear as much as we possibly can; to hearken to what is said, and to answer to the purpose.

Benjamin Franklin

Conversation

The misfortune of Goldsmith in conversation is this: he goes on without knowing how he is to get off.

Samuel Johnson

Convictions

Be true to your own highest convictions.

William Ellery Channing

Costs

Beware of little expenses; a small leak will sink a great ship.

Benjamin Franklin

Counsel/Counselling

They that won't be counseled can't be helped.

Benjamin Franklin

Counsel/Counselling

Good counselors lack no clients.

William Shakespeare

Measure for Measure, I, i, 35

Country

"My country, right or wrong," is a thing that no patriot would think of saying except in a desperate case. It is like saying, "My mother, drunk or sober."

G. K. Chesterton,

The Defendant, p. 166 (1901, reprinted 1972).

Country

All places, all airs make unto me one country; I am in England, everywhere, and under any meridian.

Sir Thomas Browne

Religio Medice, II, 1

Country

Every man has two countries, his own and France.

(Tout homme a deux pays, le sien et puis Ia France!)

Henri de Bornier, La Fille de Roland, act III, scene ii, p. 65 (1909). Jules Michelet, Le Peuple, chapter 6, says "an American philosopher" said "for every man the first country is his native land and the second is France." A translation, however, names Tom Paine as the philosopher.—Michelet, The People, trans. John P McKay, chapter 6, p. 191 (1973). Unverified.

Similarly, Thomas Jefferson in his "Autobiography" said: "Ask the travelled inhabitant of any nation, in what country on earth would you rather live?—Certainly, in my own, where all my friends, my relations, and the earliest and sweetest affections and recollections of my life. Which would be your second choice? France."—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Paul L. Ford, vol. 1, p. 149 (1892).

Country

For years I thought what was good for our country was good for General Motors, and vice versa. The difference did not exist.

Charles E. Wilson, confirmation hearing, January 15, 1953.—Nominations, hearings before the Committee on Armed Services, United States Senate, 83d Congress, 1st session, p. 26 (1953).Wilson, who had recently resigned as president of General Motors, was about to become secretary of defense. He was asked if he could make a decision in the interests of the United States government which would be adverse to the interests of General Motors or other companies whose stock he held.

This remark is often misquoted as: "What's good for General Motors is good for the country."

Country

God grant, that not only the love of liberty, but a thorough knowledge of the Rights of Man, may pervade all the nations of the earth, so that a philosopher may set his foot anywhere on its surface and say, "This is my country."

Benjamin Franklin, letter to David Hartley, December 4, 1789.—The Writings of Benjamin Franklin, ed. Albert H. Smyth, vol. 10, p. 72 (1907).

Country

He disdains all thing above his reach, and preferreth all countries before his own.

Sir Thomas Overbury

As Affectate Traveller

Country

How can a man be said to have a country when he has no right to a square inch of it?

Henry George (1839-1897)

Social Problems (1884)

Country

I cannot conceive how any man can have brought himself to that pitch of presumption, to consider his country as nothing but carte blanche, upon which he may scribble whatever he pleases.

Edmund Burke, 'Reflections on the Revolution in France,' 1790, The Works of the Right Honorable Edmund Burke, vol. 3, p. 440 (1899).

Country

I would not change my native land

For rich Peru with all her gold

Isaac Watts, "Praise for Birth and Education in a Christian Land," songs, stanza 3, Divine Songs in Easy Language for the Use of Children, p. 12 (1975). The first edition of this book was published in 1715, and many editions followed.

Country

Our Country! In her intercourse with foreign nations, may she always be in the right; but our country, right or wrong!

Stephen Decatur (1779-1820)

Toast, Norfolk, Virginia, April 1816.

Quoted in A.S. Mackenzie's Life of Decatur, Ch. XIV

["And say not thou 'My country right or wrong'/

Nor shed thy blood for an unhallowed cause."

—John Quincy Adams, In Congress,

Slavery and an Unjust War, c. 1847

"'My country right or wrong' is like saying,

'My mother, drunk or sober.'"

—G.K Chesterton, The Defendant, 1901]

Country

Our country! In her intercourse with foreign nations, may she always be in the right; but our country, right or wrong.

Stephen Decatur, toast at a dinner in Norfolk, Virginia, April 1816.—Alexander Slidell Mackenzie, Life of Stephen Decatur p. 295 (1848).Niles' Weekly Register published in Baltimore, Maryland, gave a slightly different version in its April 20, 1816, issue (p. 136). A number of the toasts at the dinner for Decatur were included, probably reprinted from a Virginia newspaper, and Decatur's appeared as: "Our country—In her intercourse with foreign nations may she always be in the right, and always successful, right or wrong."

Country

What this country needs is a really good 5-cent cigar.

Vice President Thomas R. Marshall, a remark reportedly made to Henry M. Rose, the assistant secretary of the Senate, while Marshall was presiding as president of the Senate. The episode is detailed in the New York Tribune, January 4, 1920, part 7, p. 1. There are numerous other sources, including Marshall's autobiography, Recollections of Thomas R. Marshall, caption facing p. 244 (1925), and Charles M. Thomas, Thomas Riley Marshall, p. 175 (1939).

Country

When an American says that he loves his country, he means not only that he loves the New England hills, the prairies glistening in the sun, the wide and rising plains, the great mountains, and the sea. He means that he loves an inner air, an inner light in which freedom lives and in which a man can draw the breath of self-respect.

Adlai E. Stevenson, governor of Illinois, speech to the American Legion convention, New York City, August 27, 1952.—Speeches of Adlai Stevenson, pp. 83-84 (1952).

Country

Where there is bread there is my country, is the motto of all emigrants.

Michel-Guillaume Jean de Crèvecoeur (1735-1813)

Letters from an American Farmer (1782)

Country

Who saves his country, saves himself, saves all things, and all things saved do bless him! Who lets his country die, lets all things die, dies himself ignobly, and all things dying curse him!

Senator Benjamin H. Hill.—Benjamin H. Hill, Jr., Senator Benjamin H. Hill of Georgia; His Life, Speeches and Writings, epigraph, p. 594 (1893). From "Notes on the Situation," a series of articles appearing in the Chronicle and Sentinel, Atlanta, Georgia.

Country

You convey too great a compliment when you say that I have earned the right to the presidential nomination. No man can establish such an obligation upon any part of the American people. My country owes me no debt. It gave me, as it gives every boy and girl, a chance. It gave me schooling, independence of action, opportunity for service and honor. In no other land could a boy from a country village, without inheritance or influential friends, look forward with unbounded hope. My whole life has taught me what America means. I am indebted to my country beyond any human power to repay.

Herbert Hoover, letter to Senator George H. Moses, chairman of the Republican national convention, upon learning of his nomination for president, June 14, 1928.—The Memoirs of Herbert Hoover, vol. 2, p. 195 (1952).

Courage/Cowardice

A man may desire to go to Mecca. His conscience tells him that he ought to go to Mecca. He fares forth,…he may probably never reach Mecca; he may drown before he gets to Port Said; he may perish on the coast of the Red Sea; his desire may remain eternally frustrated. Unfulfilled aspiration may always trouble him. But he will not be tormented in the same way as the man who, desiring to reach Mecca…never leaves Brixton. It is something to have left Brixton. Most of us have not left Brixton. There is no magic method of beginning. If a man standing on the edge of a swimming-bath and wanting to jump into the cold water should ask you, 'How do I begin to jump?' you would merely reply, 'Just jump. Take hold of your nerves, and jump.'

Arnold Bennett

Courage/Cowardice

All great and honorable actions are accompanied with great difficulties, and must be both enterprised and overcome with answerable courages. The dangers were great, but not desperate; the difficulties were many, but not invincible. For though there were many of them likely, yet they were not certain; it might be sundry of the things feared might never befall; others by provident care and the use of good means, might in great measure be prevented; and all of them, through the help of God, by fortitude and patience, might either be borne or overcome.

William Bradford

History of the Plymouth Plantation.

Courage/Cowardice

Always do what you are afraid to do.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Courage/Cowardice

Be scared. You can't help that. But don't be afraid. Ain't nothing in the woods going to hurt you unless you corner it, or it smells that you are afraid. A bear or a deer, too, has got to be scared of a coward the same as a brave man has got to be.

William Faulkner, "The Bear," Saturday Evening Post, May 9, 1942, reprinted in Bear Man, & God, Seven Approaches to William Faulkner's "The Bear" ed. Francis L. Utley, Lynn Z. Bloom, and Arthur F. Kinney, p. 157 (1964). This edition includes (p. 18) the version of "The Bear" in Faulkner's Go Down, Moses, where this passage appears with minor variations in wording and punctuation.

Courage/Cowardice

But the bravest are surely those who have the clearest vision of what is before them, glory and danger alike, and yet notwithstanding go out to meet it.

Thucydides

Courage/Cowardice

Courage consists, not in blindly overlooking danger, but in seeing it and conquering it.

Jean Paul Richter

Courage/Cowardice

Cowards die many times before their deaths; The valiant never taste of death but once. Of all the wonders that I yet have heard; It seems to me most strange that men should fear.

William Shakespeare

Courage/Cowardice

Cowards die many times before their deaths;

The valiant never taste of death but once.

William Shakespeare

Julius Caesar

Courage/Cowardice

Don't be afraid to take a big step if one is indicated. You can't cross a chasm in two small jumps.

Author Unknown

Courage/Cowardice

Don't be scared to fight for your rights. George Washington wasn't and even the British like him now.

John Stuart Mill

Courage/Cowardice

Father, may these people have the vision to see, the faith to accept the truth, the courage to stand by that which they know is right.

Author Unknown

Courage/Cowardice

He who loses wealth loses much; he who loses a friend loses more; but he that loses his courage loses all.

Cervantes

Courage/Cowardice

He wishes that he, too, had a wound, a red badge of courage.

Stephen Crane (1871-1900)

The Red Badge of Courage (1896)

Courage/Cowardice

Hungering and striving after knowledge is what makes a scholar; hungering and striving after virtue is what makes a Saint; hungering and striving after noble action is what makes a hero and a man.

Orison Swett Marden

Courage/Cowardice

I am more afraid of an army of 100 sheep led by a lion than an army of 100 lions led by a sheep

Charles Maurice Talleyrand

Courage/Cowardice

I dare do all that may become a man, who dares do more is none.

William Shakespeare

Courage/Cowardice

I love the man that can smile in trouble, that can gather strength from distress, and grow brave by reflection. 'Tis the business of little minds to shrink; but he whose heart is firm, and whose conscience approves his conduct, will pursue his principles unto death.

Thomas Paine, "The Crisis," no. 1, The Writings of Thomas Paine, ed. Moncure D. Conway, vol. 1, p. 176 (1894).

Courage/Cowardice

Let us have faith that right makes might; and in that faith let us; to the end; dare to do our duty as we understand it.

Abraham Lincoln

Courage/Cowardice

No one would ever have crossed the ocean if he could have gotten off the ship in a storm.

Author Unknown

Courage/Cowardice

One man with courage makes a majority.

Andrew Jackson

Courage/Cowardice

One resolution I have made, and try always to keep, is this: To rise above the little things.

John Burroughs

Courage/Cowardice

Physical bravery is an animal instinct; moral bravery is a much higher and truer courage.

Wendell Phillips

Courage/Cowardice

The brave man inattentive to his duty, is worth little more to his country, than the coward who deserts her in the hour of danger.

Andrew Jackson

Courage/Cowardice

The brave man is not he who feels no fear,

For that were stupid and irrational;

But he, whose noble soul its fears subdues,

And bravely dares the danger nature shrinks from.

Joanna Baillie, "Basil: A Tragedy," The Complete Poetical Works of Joanna Baillie, vol. 1, p. 39 (1832).

Courage/Cowardice

The courage we desire and prize is not the courage to die decently but to live manfully.

Thomas Carlyle

Courage/Cowardice

The lives of truest heroism are those in which there are no great deeds to look back upon. It is the little things well done that go to make up a successful and truly good life.

Theodore Roosevelt

Courage/Cowardice

The man, who, when in peril, calmly stops and considers, and decides upon a certain mode of procedure, and then exerts his every energy to carry out his means, is the courageous man.

Courage is commonly applied in the sense of foolhardiness. But the courageous man is not he who sticks his head into the lion's mouth, and then pinches his tail, or the man who exposes himself to unnecessary danger in order to stand his ground. There may be more courage in a retreat than in a foolhardy, bold defense. He is courageous who has the courage to retreat when he knows the object of his combat would be bettered thereby.

Courage is also the ability to endure all kinds of hardships and exertions, in order to survive defeats, disappointments and losses, also deserve mention as being closely related to and, indeed, part of courage.

Preston D. Richards

Courage/Cowardice

The opposite of courage in our society is not cowardice…it is conformity.

Earl Nightingale

Courage/Cowardice

The real acid test of courage is to be just your honest self when everybody is trying to be like somebody else.

Andrew Jensen

Courage/Cowardice

There are three marks of a superior man; being virtuous he is free from anxiety; being wise he is free from perplexity; being brave, he is free from fear.

Confucius

Courage/Cowardice

There is a certain blend of courage, integrity, character and principle which has no satisfactory dictionary name but has been called different things at different times in different countries. Our American name for it is "guts."

Louis Adamic

Courage/Cowardice

Those who lose riches lose much, but those who lose courage lose all.

Bits and Pieces 1986

Courage/Cowardice

To persevere in one's duty and to be silent is the best answer to calumny.

George Washington

Courage/Cowardice

To see what is right and not do it is want of courage.

Confucius

Courage/Cowardice

True gold fears not the fire.

Confucius

Courage/Cowardice

When you get into a tight place, and everything goes against you, 'til it seems as if you couldn't hold on a minute longer, never give up then, for that's just the place and time that the tide'll turn.

Harriet Beecher Stowe

Courage/Cowardice

Without belittling the courage with which men have died, we should not forget those acts of courage with which men…have lived. The courage of life is often a less dramatic spectacle than the courage of a final moment; but it is no less a magnificent mixture of triumph and tragedy. A man does what he must—in spite of personal consequences, in spite of obstacles and dangers and pressures—and that is the basis of all human morality…. In whatever arena of life one may meet the challenge of courage, whatever may be the sacrifices he faces if he follows his conscience—the loss of his friends, his fortune, his contentment, even the esteem of his fellow men—each man must decide for himself the course he will follow. The stories of past courage can define that ingredient—they can teach, they can offer hope, they can provide inspiration. But they cannot supply courage itself. For this each man must look into his own soul.

Senator John F. Kennedy, Profiles in Courage, p. 246 (1956).

Courage/Cowardice

You cannot scare a man who is at peace with God, his fellow men, and himself. There is no room for fear in such a man's heart. When fear finds a welcome, there is something that needs awakening.

Napoleon Hill

Courage/Cowardice

A timid person is frightened before a danger, a coward during the time, and a courageous person afterwards.

Jean Paul Richter

Courage/Cowardice

Caution, caution, sir! It is nothing but the word of cowardice.

John Brown

Quoted by Bruce Catton, Life, September 12, 1955.

Courage/Cowardice

Courage is a quality so necessary for maintaining virtue that it is always respected, even when it is associated with vice.

Samuel Johnson

Courage/Cowardice

Coward, n. one who in a perilous emergency thinks with his legs.

Ambrose Bierce

Courage/Cowardice

I dip my pen in the blackest ink, because I am not afraid of falling into my inkpot.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Courage/Cowardice

It is a blessed thing that in every age some one has had the individuality enough and courage enough to stand by his own convictions.

Robert G. Ingersoll

Courage/Cowardice

It is to the interest of the commonwealth of mankind that there should be some one who is unconquered, some one against whom fortune has no power.

Seneca

Courage/Cowardice

No call alligator long mouth till you pass him.

Jamaican Proverb

Courage/Cowardice

Often the test of courage is not to die but to live.

Conte Vittorio Alfieri

Courage/Cowardice

Perfect valor is to do unwitnessed what we should be capable of doing before all the world.

Duc de la Rochefoucauld

Courage/Cowardice

The more wit the less courage.

Thomas Fuller

Courtesy

Be courteous to all, but intimate with few; and let those few be well tried before you give them confidence.

George Washington

Courtesy

Courtesy is the go-power behind all teamwork—it works wonders.

Author Unknown

Courtesy

Courtesy should be a continuous action, not something to be turned on and off like a faucet.

Author Unknown

Courtesy

In all the affairs of life; social as well as political; courtesies of a small and trivial character are the ones which strike deepest to the grateful and appreciating heart.

Henry Clay

Courtesy

Life be not so short but that there is always time for courtesy.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Coveting

Those that much covet are with gain so fond,

For what they have not, that which they possess

They scatter and unloose it from their bond,

And so, by hoping more, they have but less.

William Shakespeare

The Rape of Lucrece, 134

Cowardice

To sin by silence when they should protest makes coward of men.

Abraham Lincoln

Creativity

For after the object is removed or the eye shut, we still retain an image of the things seen, though more obscure than when we see it….Imagination, therefore, is nothing but decaying sense.

Thomas Hobbes

Creativity

Haven't you sometimes seen a cloud that looked like a centaur?

Or a leopard perhaps? Or a wolf? Or a bull?

Aristophanes

Clouds, 346

Creativity

If nature refuses, indignation will produce verses.

Decimus Junius Juvenal

Satires, I, 79

Creativity

If you would create something you must be something.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Creativity

Nothing can be created from nothing.

Lucretius [Titus Lucretius Carus]

De Rerum Natura, I, 166

Creativity

Somebody once asked Anton Bruckner: "Master, how, when, where did you think of the divine motif of your Ninth Symphony?" "Well, it was like this," Bruckner replied. "I walked up the Kahlenberg, and when it got hot and I got hungry, I sat down by a little brook and unpacked my Swiss cheese. And just as I open the greasy paper, that darn tune pops into my head!"

Anton Bruckner

Creativity

The great creative individual…is capable of more wisdom and virtue than collective man ever can be.

John Stuart Mill

Creativity

We should not be ashamed to name what God has not been ashamed to create.

Clement of Alexandria (150?-220?), Church father

Paidagogos, Bk. II (cf. Charles A. Dana)

Creativity

When I am…completely myself, entirely alone…or during the night when I cannot sleep, it is on such occasions that my ideas flow best and most abundantly. Whence and how these come I know not nor can I force them….Nor do I hear in my imagination the parts successively, but I hear them gleich alleszusammen (at the same time all together).

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Credit

Credit is the vital air of the system of modern commerce. It has done more, a thousand times, to enrich nations, than all the mines of all the world. It has excited labor, stimulated manufactures, pushed commerce over every sea, and brought every nation, every kingdom, and every small tribe, among the races of men, to be known to all the rest. It has raised armies, equipped navies, and, triumphing over the gross power of mere numbers, it has established national superiority on the foundation of intelligence, wealth, and well-directed industry. Credit is to money what money is to articles of merchandise. As hard money represents property, so credit represents hard money; and it is capable of supplying the place of money so completely, that there are writers of distinction, especially of the Scotch school, who insist that no hard money is necessary for the interests of commerce. I am not of that opinion. I do not think any government can maintain an exclusive paper system, without running to excess, and thereby causing depreciation.

Senator Daniel Webster, remarks in the Senate in favor of continuing the charter of the Bank of the United States, March 18, 1834.—The Writings and Speeches of Daniel Webster vol. 7, p. 89 (1903).

Credit

Creditors have better memories than debtors. And creditors are a superstitious sect, great observers of set days and times.

Benjamin Franklin

Credit

Let me remind you that credit is the lifeblood of business, the lifeblood of prices and jobs.

President Herbert Hoover, address at Des Moines, Iowa, October 4, 1932.—The Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Herbert Hoover 1932-1933, p. 467.President Hoover referred to "three great perils" that the nation faced. The first of these was the "strangulation of credit through the removal of $3 billions of gold and currency by foreign drains and by the hoarding of our own citizens from the channels of our commerce and business."

Credit

No man's credit is as good as his money.

Henry Van Dyke

Credit

Pay as you go or you'll have a rough road back.

Author Unknown

Credit

The maxim of buying nothing without the money in our pocket to pay for it, would make of our country one of the happiest upon earth. Experience during the war proved this; as I think every man will remember that under all the privations it obliged him to submit to during that period he slept sounder, and awaked happier than he can do now. Desperate of finding relief from a free course of justice, I look forward to the abolition of all credit as the only other remedy which can take place.

Thomas Jefferson, letter to Alexander Donald, July 28, 1787.—The Papers of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Julian P Boyd, vol. 11, p. 633 (1955).

Creed

MY CREED

To live as gently as I can;

To be, no matter where, a man;

To take what comes of good or ill,

And cling to faith and honor still;

To do my best, and let that stand

The record of my brain and hand;

And then, should failure come to me,

Still work and hope for victory.

To have no secret place wherein

I stoop unseen to shame or sin;

To be the same when I'm alone

As when my every deed is known;

To live undaunted, unafraid

Of any step that I have made;

To be without pretense or sham

Exactly what men think I am.

To leave some simple work behind

To keep my having lived in mind;

If enmity to aught I show,

To be an honest, generous foe;

To play my little part, nor whine

That greater honors are not mine.

This I believe is all I need

For my philosophy and creed.

Edgar A. Guest

Creed

This is my creed: To do some good,

To bear my ills without complaining,

To press on as a brave man should

For honors that are worth the gaining;

To seek no profits where I may,

By winning them, bring grief to others;

To do some service day by day

In helping on my toiling brothers.

This is my creed: To close my eyes

To little faults of those around me;

To strive to be when each day dies

Some better than the morning found me;

To ask for no unearned applause,

To cross no river until I reach it;

To see the merit of the cause

Before I follow those who preach it.

This is my creed: To try to shun

The sloughs in which the foolish wallow;

To lead where I may be the one

Whom weaker men should choose to follow;

To keep my standards always high,

To find my task and always do it;

This is my creed—I wish that I

Could learn to shape my action to it.

S. E. Kiser

Crime and Punishment

To be nobly born

Is now a crime.

Phillip Massinger

The Roman Actor, I, 1

Crime and Punishment

Actus non facit reum, nisi mens sit rea.

The act is not criminal unless the intent is criminal.

Anonymous Latin Legal maxim

Crime and Punishment

C'est plus qu'un crime, c'est une faute.

It is more than a crime, it's a blunder.

Joseph Fouché, Duke of Otrante (1765-1820)

Crime and Punishment

Distrust all men in whom the impulse to punish is powerful.

Friedrich Nietzsche

Crime and Punishment

Every wanton and causeless restraint of the will of the subject, whether practiced by a monarch, a nobility, or a popular assembly, is a degree of tyranny.

Sir William Blackstone

Commentaries on the Laws of England, Edition of 1850, Vol. 2, Bk. iv.

Crime and Punishment

From a single crime know the nation.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aeneid, II, 65

Crime and Punishment

Held to be a crime when committed by individuals, homicide is called a virtue when committed by the state.

St. Cyprian (200-beheaded 258), Bishop of Carthage

Epistulae, 1, 6

Crime and Punishment

If England treats her criminals the way she has treated me, she doesn't deserve to have any.

Oscar Wilde

Crime and Punishment

It is better to prevent crimes than to punish them.

Cesare Bonesana di Beccaria

Dei Delitti e delle Pene (On Crimes and Punishments), 1764.

Crime and Punishment

Luther was guilty of two great crimes—he struck the Pope in his crown, and the monks in their belly.

Desiderius Erasmus (1465-1536)

Colloquies

Crime and Punishment

Nothing so upholds the laws as the punishment of persons whose rank is as great as their crime.

Cardinal Richelieu

Crime and Punishment

Poverty is the mother of crime.

Marcus Aurelius

Crime and Punishment

The vilest deeds like poison weeds

Bloom well in prison-air:

It is only what is good in Man

That wastes and withers there.

Oscar Wilde

Crime and Punishment

Under a government which imprisons any unjustly, the true place for a just man is also a prison.

Henry David Thoreau

Criminals

Eighty per cent of our criminals come from unsympathetic homes.

Hans Christian Anderson

Criminals

There are few better measures of the concern a society has for its individual members and its own well being than the way it handles criminals.

Attorney General Ramsey Clark,

keynote address, American Correctional

Association conference, Miami Beach, Florida,

August 20-25, 1967.—Proceedings of the Ninety-Seventh

Annual Congress of Correction of the

American Correctional Association, p. 4 (1968).

Criticism/Critics

Forbear to judge, for we are sinners all.

Shakespeare

Criticism/Critics

There are but three ways for a man to revenge himself for the censure of the world: to despise it; to return the like; or to live so as to avoid it.—The first of these is usually pretended; the last is almost impossible; the universal practice is for the second.

Swift

Criticism/Critics

Accept criticism and seek counsel of those who will tell you your faults. Mere praise will never bring the improvement you need. He that won't be counseled can't be helped.

Author Unknown

Criticism/Critics

Censure pardons the ravens, but rebukes the doves.

Juvenal

Criticism/Critics

Criticism, as it was first instituted by Aristotle, was meant as a standard of judging well.

Jonson

Criticism/Critics

Few persons have sufficient wisdom to prefer censure, which is useful, to praise which deceives them.

Rochefoucauld

Criticism/Critics

He is always the severest censor on the merits of others who has the least worth of his own.

E. L. Magoon

Criticism/Critics

He that well and rightly considereth his own works will find little cause to judge hardly of another.

Thomas A. Kempis

Criticism/Critics

Horace appears in good humor while he censures, and therefore his censure has the more weight, as supposed to proceed from judgment and not from passion.

Young

Criticism/Critics

If any one speak ill of thee, consider whether he hath truth on his side; and if so, reform thyself, that his censures may not affect thee.

Epictetus

Criticism/Critics

It is harder to avoid censure than to gain applause, for this may be done by one great or wise action in an age; but to escape censure a man must pass his whole life without saying or doing one ill or foolish thing.

Hume

Criticism/Critics

It is impossible to indulge in habitual severity of opinion upon our fellow-men without injuring the tenderness and delicacy of our feelings.

H. W. Beecher

Criticism/Critics

Most of our censure of others is only oblique praise of self, uttered to show the wisdom and superiority of the speaker.—It has all the invidiousness of self-praise, and all the ill-desert of falsehood.

Tyron Edwards

Criticism/Critics

The censure of those who are opposed to us, is the highest commendation that can be given us.

Evremond

Criticism/Critics

The most censorious are generally the least judicious, or deserving, who, having nothing to recommend themselves, will be finding fault with others.—No man envies the merit of another who has enough of his own.

Rule of Life

Criticism/Critics

The readiest and surest way to get rid of censure, is to correct ourselves.

Demosthenes

Criticism/Critics

The villain's censure is extorted praise.

Pope

Criticism/Critics

Criticism comes easier than craftsmanship.

Zeuxis

Criticism/Critics

Criticism is a study by which men grow important and formidable at very small expense.

Samuel Johnson

Criticism/Critics

Critics are sentinels in the grand army of letters, stationed at the corners of newspapers and reviews, to challenge every new author.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Criticism/Critics

He that can carp in the most eloquent or acute manner at the weakness of the human mind is held by his fellows as almost divine.

Benedict [Baruch] Spinoza

Ethics, III: Preface

Criticism/Critics

In the proudest nations of the Old World works were published which faithfully portrayed the vices and absurdities of contemporaries; La Bruyére lived in Louis XIV's palace while he wrote his chapter on the great, and Moliere criticized the court in plays acted before the courtiers. But the power which dominates in the United States does not understand being mocked like that. The least reproach offends it, and the slightest sting of truth turns it fierce; and one must praise everything, from the turn of its phrases to its most robust virtues. No writer, no matter how famous, can escape from this obligation to sprinkle incense over his fellow citizens. Hence the majority lives in a state of perpetual self-adoration; only strangers or experience may be able to bring certain truths to the Americans' attention.

Alexis de Tocqueville, Democracy in America, ed. J. P. Mayer, trans. George Lawrence, vol. 1, part 2, chapter 7, p. 256 (1969). Originally published in 1835-1840.

Criticism/Critics

It is a thing of no great difficulty to raise objections against another man's oration—nay, it is a very easy matter; but to produce a better in its place is a work extremely troublesome.

Plutarch

Criticism/Critics

Let dull critics feed upon the carcases of plays; give me the taste and the dressing.

Lord Chesterfield, letter to Philip Stanhope, his natural son, February 6, 1752.—The Letters of Philip Dormer Stanhope, 4th Earl of Chesterfield, vol. 5, p. 1826 (1932).

Criticism/Critics

One of the greatest creations of the human mind is the art of reviewing books without having read them.

G. C. Lichtenberg

Criticism/Critics

To escape criticism—do nothing, say nothing, be nothing.

Elbert Hubbard

Criticism/Critics

We are perhaps too educated to put up with a constitution—we are too critical.

Otto von Bismarck-Schoenhausen

Impromptu speech to several ministers and deputies of the

Prussian House of Delegates, September 29, 1862.

Criticism/Critics

You know who the critics are? The men who have failed in literature and art.

Benjamin Disraeli (Earl of Beaconsfield) (1804-1881)

Lothair (1870)

Culture

Culture is to know the best that has been said and thought in the world.

Matthew Arnold

Culture

Culture, with us, ends in headache.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Culture

Nobody, I think, ought to read poetry, or look at pictures or statues, who cannot find a great deal more in them than the poet or artist has actually expressed.

Nathaniel Hawthorne

Culture

See some good picture—in nature; if possible; or on canvas hear a page of the best music; or read a great poem every day. You will always find a free half hour for one or the other; and at the end of the year your mind will shine with such an accumulation of jewels as will astonish even yourself.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Culture

The great law of culture: let each become all that he was created capable of being.

Thomas Carlyle

Culture

You will always find it [hatred] strongest and most violent where there is the lowest degree of culture.

Johann W. von Goethe

Curiosity

Curiosity is one of the permanent and certain characteristics of a vigorous mind.

Samuel Johnson

Curses/Cursing

Curses may recoil on the head of him who imprecates them. If you put a chain around the neck of a slave the other end fastens itself around your own.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Curses/Cursing

The foolish and wicked practice of cursing and swearing is a vice so mean and low that every person of sense and character detests and despises it.

George Washington

Customs/Habits/Folkways

Custom does often reason overrule

And only serves for reason to the fool.

John Wilmot, Earl of Rochester

Customs/Habits/Folkways

Custom is the principal magistrate of man's life.

Francis Bacon

Essays. Of Custom.

Customs/Habits/Folkways

Habit with him was all the test of truth;

"It must be right: I've done it from my youth."

George Crabbe

Customs/Habits/Folkways

Never suffer an exception to occur till the new habit is securely rooted in your life. Each lapse is like the letting fall of a ball of string which one is carefully winding up; a single slip undoes more than a great many turns will wind again.

William James

Customs/Habits/Folkways

Nothing is stronger than habit.

Ovid [Publius Ovidius Naso]

Ars Amatoria, II, 345

Customs/Habits/Folkways

Practice is the best of all instructors.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 439

Customs/Habits/Folkways

The difference between…a philosopher and a common street porter…arises not so much from nature as from habit, custom, and education.

Adam Smith

Customs/Habits/Folkways

The perpetual obstacle to human advancement is custom.

John Stuart Mill

Customs/Habits/Folkways

We do everything by custom, even believe by it; our very axioms, let us boast of freethinking as we may, are often simply such beliefs as we have never heard questioned.

Thomas Carlyle

Sartor Resartus, III.

Cynicism/Cynics

It takes a clever man to turn cynic, and a wise man not to.

Fannie Hurst

Cynicism/Cynics

A cynic is a man who knows the price of everything and the value of nothing.

Oscar Wilde

Cynicism/Cynics

Cynic: n. a blackguard whose faulty vision sees things as they are, not as they ought to be.

Ambrose Bierce

Dancing

No amusement seems more to have a foundation in our nature. The animation of youth overflows spontaneously in harmonious movements. The true idea of dancing entitles it to favor. Its end is to realize perfect grace in motion; and who does not know that a sense of the graceful is one of the highest faculties of our nature?

William Ellery Channing

Danger

A snake lurks in the grass.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Elogues, III, 93

Danger

When a building is about to fall down, all the mice desert it.

Pliny the Elder

Natural History, VIII, 17

Death

'Tis after death that we measure men.

James Barron Hope, "Our Heroic Dead," A Wreath of Virginia Bay Leaves, ed. Janey Hope Marr, p. 71 (1895).As commander of the camp, he addressed the Confederate veterans on their first decoration day with this poem.—Samuel A. Link, Pioneers of Southern Literature, vol. 2, p. 423 (1903).

Death

21. Keep before your eyes from day to day death and exile and all things that seem terrible, but death most of all, and then you will never set your thoughts on what is low and will never desire anything beyond measure.

Epictetus (c. 50-120 A.D.)

The Manual of Epictetus (The Encheiridion)

Death

But it pleased God to visit us then with death daily, and with so general a disease that the living were scarce able to bury the dead.

William Bradford

Of Plymouth Plantation, ch. 12

Death

A good death does honor to a whole life.

Petrarch [Francesco Petrarca]

To Laura in Death, canzone 16

Death

A man can die but once; we owe God a death.

William Shakespeare

King Henry IV, II, III, ii, 253

Death

A sudden madness came down upon the unwary lover [Orpheus]—forgivable, surely, if Death knew how to forgive.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Georgics, IV, 488

Death

Acta est fabula.

The play is over.

Anonymous Latin

Said at ancient dramatic

performances and quoted by

Augustus on his deathbed

Death

Adam, the first great benefactor of our race,

He brought death into the world.

Samuel Langhorne Clemens ("Mark Twain") (1835-1910)

Pudd'nhead Wilson's Calendar (1893)

Death

Afraid! of whom am I afraid?

Not Death—for who is He?

The Porter of my Father's Lodge

As much abasheth me!

Emily Dickinson (1830-1886)

No. 608 (c. 1862)

Death

And nothing can we call our own but death,

And that small model of the baren earth

Which serves as paste and cover to our bones.

For God's sake, let us sit upon the ground

And tell sad stories of the death of kings:

How some have been depos'd, some slain in war,

Some haunted by the ghosts thy have depos'd,

Some poison'd by their wives, some sleeping kill'd;

All murder'd: for within the hollow crown

That rounds the mortal temples of a king

Keeps Death his court.

William Shakespeare

King Richard II, III, ii, 152

Death

And our hearts…like muffled

drums, are beating funeral marches to the grave.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Death

Applaud friends, the comedy is over.

Ludwig van Beethoven

(on his deathbed.)

Death

As a well-spent day brings happy sleep, so life well used brings happy death.

Leonardo da Vinci

Notebooks

Death

As for myself, may the "sweet Muses," as Virgil says, bear me away to their holy places where sacred streams do flow, beyond the reach of anxiety and care, and free from the obligation of performing each day some task that goes against the grain. May I no longer have anything to do with the mad racket and the hazards of the forum, or tremble as I try a fall with white-faced Fame. I do not want to be roused from sleep by the clatter of morning callers or by some breathless messenger from the palace; I do not care, in drawing my will, to eve a money-pledge for its safe execution through anxiety as to what is to happen afterwards; I wish for no larger estate than I can leave to the heir of my own free choice. Some day or other the last hour will strike also for me, and my prayer is that my effigy may be set up beside my grave, not grim and scowling, but all smiles and garlands, and that no one shall seek to honour my memory either by a motion in the senate or by a petition to the Emperor.

Tacitus, "A Dialogue on Oratory," section 13, Dialogus, Agricola, Germania, trans. William Peterson, p. 51 (1914).Excerpts from this passage, in a different translation, were read at the funeral of Justice Hugo L. Black, September 28, 1971, as they were found underlined in his books and were said to be a favorite passage:

"Let the sweet Muses lead me to their soft retreats, their living fountains, and melodious groves, where I may dwell remote from care, master of myself…let me no more be seen in the wrangling forum, a pale and odious candidate for precarious fame…let me live free from solicitude…and when nature shall give the signal to retire may I possess no more than I may bequeath to whom I will. At my funeral let no token of sorrow be seen, no pompous mockery of woe. Crown me with chaplets; strew flowers on my grave, and let my friends erect no vain memorial to tell where my remains are lodged."—The Works of Tacitus, Oxford trans., rev., vol. 2, pp. 408-9 (1854). The printed version differs from the above only in the beginning, "Me let the sweet Muses lead," and in using "anxious" for "odious."The reference to Virgil is to The Georgics, book 2, line 476.

Death

As men, we are all equal in the presence of death.

Publilius Syrus

Death

…the fog is rising.

Emily Dickinson's last words

Death

Be of good cheer about death, and know this of a truth, that no evil can happen to a good man, either in life or after death.

Socrates

Death

Because I could not stop for Death—

He kindly stopped for me—

The carriage held but just Ourselves—

And Immortality.

Emily Dickinson (1830-1886)

No. 712 (c. 1863)

Death

Better die once for all than live in continual terror.

Aesop

Death

But at my back I always hear

Time's winged chariot hurrying near.

Andrew Marvell

Death

But thought's the slave of life, and life time's fool;

And time, that takes the survey of all the world,

Must have a stop. O! I could prophesy,

But that the earthly and cold hand of death

Lies on my tongue.

William Shakespeare

King Henry IV, I, V, iv, 81

Death

By the ships there lies a dead man, unwept, unburied: Patroclus.

Homer

The Iliad, XXII, 386

Death

Call in thy death's head there: tie up thy fears.

George Herbert

The Temple. The Collar

Death

Come away, come away, death,

And in sad cypress let me be laid;

Fly away, fly away, breath;

I am slain by a fair cruel maid.

William Shakespeare

Twelfth-Night, II, iv, 51

Death

Confucius said, "We don't know yet about life, how can we know about death?"

Confucius (551-479 B.C.)

Aphorisms (tr. Lin Yutang)

Death

Dear Madam,—I have been shown in the files of the War Department a Statement of the Adjutant General of Massachusetts, that you are the mother of five sons who have died gloriously on the field of battle.

I feel how weak and fruitless must be any words of mine which should attempt to beguile you from the grief of a loss so overwhelming. But I cannot refrain from tendering to you the consolation that may be found in the thanks of the Republic they died to save.

I pray that our Heavenly Father may assuage the anguish of your bereavement, and leave you only the cherished memory of the loved and lost, and the solemn pride that must be yours, to have laid so costly a sacrifice upon the altar of Freedom. Yours, very sincerely and respectfully.

President Abraham Lincoln, letter to Mrs. Lydia Bixby, November 21, 1864.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P Basler, vol. 8, pp. 116-17 (1953).The records were later corrected: only two sons died. For information concerning the text, the sons of Mrs. Bixby, and additional sources concerning this letter, see the editor's note on p. 117.

Death

Death be not proud, though some have called thee

Mighty and dreadful, for thou art not so,

For those whom thou think'st thou dost overthrow,

Die not, poor death, nor yet canst thou kill me.

\* \* \* \*

One short sleep past, we wake eternally,

And death shall be no more; death, thou shalt die.

John Donne (1573-1631)

Holy Sonnets (before 1615), X

Death

Death borders upon our birth, and our cradle stands in the grave.

Richard Barnfield

Epistles. Decade III, epistle 2

Death

Death calls ye to the crowd of common men.

James Shirley

Death

Death is afraid of him because he has the heart of a lion.

Arab proverb

Death

Death is better, a milder mover; for what thing without Zeus is done among mortals?

Aeschylus

Agamamnon, 1364

Death

Death is nothing to us, since when we are, death has not come, and when death has come, we are not.

Epicurus

From Diogenes Laertius, X, 125

Death

Death is nothing to us: for that which is dissolved is without sensation; and that which lacks sensation is nothing to us.

Epicurus (341-270 B.C.)

Principal Doctrines, II

(Another Translation)

Thus that which is the most awful of evils, death, is nothing to us, since when we exist there is no death, and where there is death we do not exist.

Death

Death possesses a great deal of real estate, namely the graveyard in every town.

Nathaniel Hawthorne

Death

Death tugs at my ear and says: "Live, I am coming."

Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sr.

Death

Death twitches my ear. "Live," he says; "I am coming."

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Minor Poems, Copa, 38

Death

Depend upon it, Sir, when a man knows he is to be hanged in a fortnight, it concentrates his mind wonderfully.

Samuel Johnson.—James Boswell, Boswell's Life of Johnson, ed. George B. Hill, rev. and enl. ed., ed. L. F. Powell, entry for September 19, 1777, vol. 3, p. 167 (1934).

Death

Die, my dear Doctor, that's the last thing I shall do!

Lord Palmerston

Death

Do not speak ill of the dead.

The Seven Sages

Ib. 70

Death

Do not suppose, my dearest ones, that when I have left you I shall be nowhere and no one. Even when I was with you, you did not see my soul, but knew that it was in this body of mine from what I did. Believe then that it is still the same, even though you see it not.. Wherefore.. preserve my memory by the loyalty and piety of your lives.

Cicero

Death

Doth not a man die even in his birth? The breaking of prison is death, and what is our birth, but a breaking of prison?

John Donne (1573-1631)

Sermons (1619), No. XV

Death

Earl of Sandwich: 'Pon my honor, Wilkes, I don't know whether you'll die on the gallows or of the pox.

John Wilkes: That must depend my Lord, upon whether I first embrace your Lordship's principles, or your Lordship's mistresses.

Exchange retold by Sir Charles Petrie,

The Four Georges, p. 133 (1935).

Death

Either death is a state of nothingness and utter unconsciousness, or, as men say, there is a change and migration of the soul from this world to another.

…Now if death be of such a nature, I say that to die is to gain; for eternity is then only a single night.

Plato

Dialogues, Apology, 40

Death

Even such is time, that takes in trust

Our youth, our joys, our all we have,

And pays us but with age and dust;

Who in the dark and silent grave,

When we have wandered all our ways,

Shuts up the story of our days.

And from which earth, and grave, and dust,

The Lord shall raise me up, I trust.

Sir Walter Raleigh

A version of one of his earlier peoms, found at his death in his

Bible in the Gatehouse at Westminster

Death

Fear death?—to feel the fog in my throat,

The mist in my face.

Robert Browning

Death

For certain is death for the born

And certain is birth for the dead;

Therefore over the inevitable

Thou shouldst not grieve.

Bhagavad Gita

Gita, ch. 2, sec. 27

Death

For clearly death is negligible, if it utterly annihilates the soul, or even desirable, if it conducts the soul to some place where it is to live for ever. Surely no other alternative can be found. What, then, shall I fear, if after death I am destined to be either not unhappy or happy?

Marcus Tullius Cicero (106-43 B.C.)

De Senectute (44 B.C.)

Death

Fortune favored him…in the opportune moment of his death.

Caius Cornelius Tacitus

Agricola, sec. 45

Death

From the heart of this fountain of delights wells up some bitter taste to choke them even amid the flowers.

Lucretius [Titus Lucretius Carus]

De Rerum Natura, IV, 1133

Death

Hail, Emperor, we who are about to die salute you.

Suetionius

Life of Claudius, 21

Death

Hanging was the worst use a man could be put to.

Sir Henry Wotton

The Disparity Between Buckingham and Essex

Death

He had spent an unconscionable time dying; he hoped that they would excuse it.

Charles II

Death

He was exhal'd; his great Creator drew

His spirit, as the sun the morning dew.

John Dryden

On the Death of a Very Young Gentleman

Death

Here lies a King that rul'd, as he thought fit

The universal monarchy of wit;

Here lies two flamens, and both those the best:

Apollo's first, at last the true God's priest.

Thomas Carew

Elegy on the Death of Donne

Death

His limbs were cold in death; his spirit fled with a groan, indignant, to the shades below.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aeneid, XII, 951

Death

How frighteningly few are the persons whose death would spoil our appetite and make the world seem empty.

Eric Hoffer, "Thoughts of Eric Hoffer, Including: 'Absolute Faith Corrupts Absolutely,'" The New York Times Magazine, April 25, 1971, p. 62.

Death

How I shall live through centuries,

And hear the blessed mutter of the Mass,

And see God made and eaten all day long,

And feel the steady candle-flame, and taste

Good strong thick stupefying incense-

smoke.

Robert Browning

The Bishop Orders His Tomb at St. Praxed's Church.

Death

I am dying of thirst by the side of the fountain.

Charles D'Orleans

Ballades, 2

Death

I fell as a dead body falls.

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy, Canto V, Last line

Death

I have a rendezvous with Death

At some disputed barricade

When Spring comes back with rustling shade

And apple-blossoms fill the air—

I have a rendezvous with Death

When Spring brings back blue days and fair.

It may be he shall take my hand

And lead me into his dark land

And close my eyes and quench my breath—

It may be I shall pass him still.

I have a rendezvous with Death

On some scarred slope of battered hill,

When Spring comes round again this year

And the first meadow-flowers appear.

God knows 'twere better to be deep

Pillowed in silk and scented down,

Where Love throbs out in blissful sleep,

Pulse nigh to pulse, and breath to breath,

Where hushed awakenings are dear.

But I've a rendezvous with Death

At midnight in some flaming town,

When Spring trips north again this year,

And I to my pledged word am true,

I shall not fail that rendezvous.

Alan Seeger, "I Have a Rendezvous with Death…," Poems, p. 144 (1917).

Death

I know death hath ten thousand several doors

For men to take their exits.

John Webster

Duchess of Malfi, IV, 2

Death

I shall ask leave to sesist, when I am interrupted by so great an experiment as dying.

Sir William Davenant

His apology, in illness, for not having finished Gondibert

Death

I warmed both hands before the fire of life;

It sinks, and I am ready to depart.

Walter Savage Landor

Death

If a man in the morning hear the right way, he may die in the evening without regret.

Confucius

The Confucian Analects, 4:8

Death

If the greatest part of excellence is nobly to die, this to us of all men has fortune given: for struggling to clothe Greece in freedom, we lie in unaging glory.

Simonides

Fragment 118

Death

In the democracy of the dead all men at last are equal. There is neither rank nor station nor prerogative in the republic of the grave.

Senator John James Ingalls, eulogy on the death of Representative James N. Burnes, January 24, 1889.—A Collection of the Writings of John James Ingalls, p. 273 (1902).

Death

It is a far, far better thing that I do, than I have ever done; it is a far, far better rest that I go to, than I have ever known.

Charles Dickens (1812-1870)

A Tale Of Two Cities (1859), Sidney Carton, Bk. III, Ch. 15

Death

It is entirely seemly for a young man killed in battle to lie mangled by the bronze spear. In his death all things appear fair. But when dogs shame the gray head and gray chin and nakedness of an old man killed, it is the most piteous thing that happens among wretched mortals.

Homer

The Iliad, XXII, 71

Death

It is not right to glory in the slain.

Homer, The Odyssey of Homer, trans. George H. Palmer, book 22, line 412, p. 288 (1929).Another translation is: "It isn't right to gloat over the dead."—Homer's Odyssey, trans. Denison B. Hull, p. 252 (1978).

Death

It is sweet and honorable to die for one's country.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Odes, III, II, 13

Death

It is the lot of man but once to die.

Francis Quarles

Death

It was now the hour that turns back the longing of seafarers and melts their hearts, the day they have bidden dear friends farewell, and pierces the new traveler with love if he hears in the distance the bell that seems to mourn the dying day.

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy. Purgatorio, canto VIII, 1

Death

Let no one pay me honor with tears, nor celebreate my funeral rites with weeping.

Quintus Ennius

From Cicero, De Senectutive XX

Death

Let not poor Nelly Starve.

Charles II

On his deathbed. From Burnet, History of My Own Times, Vol. I, ch. 4

Death

Little soul, wandering, gentle guest and companion of the body, into what places will you now go, pale, stiff, and naked, no longer sporting as you did!

Hadrian [Publius Aelius Hadrianus]

Ad Animam Suam

Death

Lord, Lord! methought, what pain it was to drown:

What dreadful noise of waters in mine ears!

What ugly sights of death within mine eyes!

Methought I saw a thousand fearful wracks;

A thousand men that fishes gnaw upon.

William Shakespeare

King Richard III, I, iv, 21

Death

Methought I saw the grave where Laura lay.

Sir Walter Raleigh

Verses to Edmund Spenser

Death

Mors ultima ratio.

Death is the final accounting.

Anonymous Latin Saying

Death

Mourn, ye Graces and Loves, and all you whom the Graces love. My lady's sparrow is dead, the sparrow, my lady's pet.

Gaius Valerius Catullus

Carmina, III, 1

Death

Must not all things at the last be swallowed up in death?

Plato

Death

Naked in death upon an unknown shore.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aeneid, V, 871

Death

Neither fear your death's day nor long for it.

Martial [Marcus Valerius Martialis]

Epigrams, X, 47

Death

Nor do I regret that I have lived, since I have so lived that I think I was not born in vain, and I quit life as if it were an inn, not a home.

Marcus Tullius Cicero (106-43 B.C.)

De Senectute (44 B.C.)

Death

Now comes the mystery.

Henry Ward Beecher

(on his deathbed.)

Death

Now he goes along the dark road, thither whence they say no one returns.

Gaius Valerius Catullus

Carmina, III, 11

Death

Of all the events which constitute a person's biography, there is scarcely one…to which the world so easily reconciles itself as to his death.

Nathaniel Hawthorne

Death

Omnia mors aequat.

Death levels all.

Claudian (Claudius Claudianus) (c. 375-408)

De Raptu Proserpinae, Bk. 2

Death

On the mountains of memory, by the world's wellsprings,

In all men's eyes,

Where the light of the life of him is on all past things,

Death only dies.

Algernon C. Swinburne,

"Super Flumina Babylonis," The Complete Works

of Algernon C. Swinburne, vol. 2, p. 106 (1925).

Death

One short sleep past, we wake eternally,

And Death shall be no more:

Death, thou shalt die!

John Donne

Death

One thing is certain and the rest is Lies;

The Flower that once has blown forever dies.

Edward Fitzgerald

Death

Pale Death with impartial tread beats at the poor man's cottage door and at the palaces of kings.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Odes, I, iv, 13

Death

RESOLVED: That the compact which exists between the North and the South is a covenant with death and an agreement with hell, involving both parties in atrocious criminality, and should be immediately annulled.

William Lloyd Garrison (1805-1879)

Written for the Massachusetts Anti-Slavery Society adopted January 27, 1843

Death

Say the report is exaggerated.

Mark Twain (Samuel L. Clemens), "The Report of My Death," Mark Twain in Eruption, ed. Bernard DeVoto, pp. 252-53 (1940). In 1897, Twain was living in London where a cousin, Dr. Jim Clemens, fell ill. The newspapers, believing Twain was near death, sent reporters to investigate. Twain made his remark when the correspondent for the Evening Sun told him his death had been reported in New York, and asked what he should cable in reply.

Albert Bigelow Paine, Mark Twain, vol. 2, chapter 197, p. 1039 (1912), gives a slightly different version of the story, ending, "Just say the report of my death has been grossly exaggerated." Often heard "…greatly exaggerated."

Death

Shakespeare was of us, Milton was for us,

Burns, Shelley, were with us—they

watch from their graves!

He alone breaks from the van and the

freeman,

He alone sinks to the read and the

slaves!

Robert Browning

The Lost Leader, 1845.

Death

Show me the manner in which a nation or a community cares for its dead. I will measure exactly the sympathies of its people, their respect for the laws of the land, and their loyalty to high ideals.

Attributed to William E. Gladstone.—"Successful Cemetery Advertising," The American Cemetery, March 1938, p. 13. Unverified.

Death

Since for the death remeid is none,

Best is that we for death dispone.

After our death that life may be:—

Timor Mortis conturbat me.

William Dunbar (1465-1530)

"Lament of the Makaris" (1508) Refrain

Death

Sleep is lovely, death is better still, not to have been born is of course the miracle.

Heinrich Heine

Death

Sleep sweetly, tender heart, in peace;

Sleep, holy spirit, blessed soul,

While the stars burn, the moons increase,

And the great ages onward roll.

Sleep till the end, true soul and sweet.

Nothing comes to thee new or strange.

Sleep full of rest from head to feet;

Lie still, dry dust, Secure of change.

Alfred, Lord Tennyson, "To J. S." [James Spedding], stanzas 18-19, The Poetic and Dramatic Works of Alfred Lord Tennyson, p. 78 (1899).

Death

Sweet and glorious it is to die for our country.

(Dulce et decorum est pro patria mori.)

Horace, Odes, book 3, ode 2, line 13.—The Works of Horace, trans. J. C. Elgood, p. 58 (1893).There have been various translations of this sentence, including that in the Modern Library edition, The Complete Works of Horace, p.217 (1936), "For country 'tis a sweet and seemly thing to die." Ernest Hemingway, "Notes on the Next War," Esquire, September 1935, p. 156, said, "They wrote in the old days that it is sweet and fitting to die for one's country. But in modern war there is nothing sweet nor fitting in your dying."

Death

That fear of Acheron be sent packing which troubles the life of man from its deepest depths, suffuses all with the blackness of death, and leaves no delight clean and pure.

Lucretius [Titus Lucretius Carus]

De Rerum Natura, III, 37

Death

The best of men cannot suspend their fate; the good die early, and the bad die late.

Daniel Defoe

Death

The captain of all these men of death that came against him to take him away, was the Consumption, for it was that that brought him down to the grave.

John Bunyan

The Life and Death of Mr. Badman

Death

The fear of death is more to be dreaded that death itself.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 511

Death

The glories of our blood and state

Are shadows, not substantial things;

There is no armor against fate;

Death lays his icy hand on kings.

James Shirley

Contention of Ajax and Ulysses, sc. 3

Death

The hour of departure has arrived, and we go our ways—I to die, and you to live. Which is better God only knows.

Plato

Dialogues, Apology, 42

Death

The long habit of living indisposeth us for dying.

Sir Thomas Browne

Death

The longest-lived and the shortest-lived man, when they come to die, lose one and the same thing.

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

Meditations, II, 14

Death

The riders in a race do not stop when they reach the goal. There is a little finishing canter before coming to a standstill. There is time to hear the kind voices of friends and say to oneself, "The work is done."

Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sr.

Death

The soul-stirring image of death, is no bugbear to the sage, and is looked on without despair by the pious. It teaches the former to live, and it strengthens the hopes of the latter in salvation in the midst of distress. Death is new life to both.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832)

Herman und Dorothea (1797)

Death

The sound of her silk skirt has stopped.

On the marble pavement dust grows.

Her empty room is cold and still.

Fallen leaves are piled against the doors.

Longing for that lovely lady

How can I bring my aching heart to rest?

Han Wu-Ti

On the death of his mistress

Death

The tempest was terrible and separated me from my [other] vessels that night, putting every one of them in desperate straits, with nothing to look forward to but death. Each was certain the others had been destroyed. What man ever born, not excepting Job, who would not have died of despair, when in such weather seeking safety for my son, my brother, shipmates, and myself, we were forbidden [access to] the land and the harbors which I, by God's will and sweating blood, had won for Spain?

Christopher Columbus

Lettera Rarissima to the Sovereigns, July 7, 1503 (Fourth Voyage)

Death

Then dark death seized Argus, as soon as he had seen Odysseus in the twentieth year.

Homer

The Odyssey, XVII, 326

Death

Then the father held out the golden scales, and in them he placed two fates of dread death.

Homer

The Iliad, XXII, 209

Death

There is no flock, however watched and tended,

But one dead lamb is there!

There is no fireside, howsoe'er defended,

But has one vacant chair!

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Death

There is no sure foundation set on blood,

No certain life achiev'd by others' death.

William Shakespeare

King John, IV, ii, 104

Death

There is something beyond the grave; death does not end all, and pale ghost escapes from the vanquished pyre.

Sextus Aurelius Propertius

Elegies, IV, vii, 1

Death

Therefore death is nothing to us, it matters not one jot, since the nature of the mind is understood to be mortal.

Lucretius [Titus Lucretius Carus]

De Rerum Natura, III, 831

Death

Think not disdainfully of death, but look on it with favor; for even death is one of the things that Nature wills.

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

Meditations, IX, 3

Death

This reasonable moderator, and equal piece of justice, Death.

Sir Thomas Browne

Religio Medici, I, 38

Death

Those to whom we say farewell, are welcomed by others.

Author Unknown

Death

Those who have lived a good life do not fear death, but meet it calmly, and even long for it in the face of great suffering. But those who do not have a peaceful conscience, dread death even though life means nothing but physical torment. The challenge is to so live our life that we will be prepared for death when it comes.

Author Unknown

Death

Though boys throw stones at frogs in sport, the frogs do not die in sport, but in earnest.

Bion

From Plutarch, Water and Land Animals

Death

Thrice would I have thrown my arms about her neck, and thrice the ghost embraced fled from my grasp: like a fluttering breeze, like a fleeting dream.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aeneid, II, 793

Death

Thus parted the one from the others as the nail from the flesh.

Poem of the Cid

Line 375

Death

Tir'd with all these, for restful death I cry.

William Shakespeare

Sonnet 66, 1

Death

To die is landing on some distant shore.

John Dryden

Death

To have died once is enough.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aeneid, IX, 140

Death

Wandering through many countries and over many seas, I come, my brother, to these sorrowful obsequies, to present you with the last guerdon of death, and speak, though in vain, to your silent ashes.

Gaius Valerius Catullus

Carmina, CI, 1

Death

We shall march prospering—not thro' his presence;

Songs may inspirit us—not from his lyre;

Deeds will be done—while he boasts his quiescence,

Still bidding crouch whom the rest bade aspire:

Blot out his name, then, record one lost soul more,

One task more declined, one more footpath untrod,

One more devil's-triumph and sorrow for angels,

One wrong more to man, one more insult to God!

Robert Browning

The Lost Leader, 1845.

Death

We should weep for men at their birth, not at their death.

Baron de Montesquieu

Death

We sometimes congratulate ourselves at the moment of waking from a troubled dream: it may be so the moment after death.

Nathaniel Hawthorne

Death

Were a star quenched on high,

For ages would its light,

Still travelling downward from the sky,

Shine on our mortal sight.

So when a great man dies,

For years beyond our ken,

The light he leaves behind him lies

Upon the paths of men.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow,

"Charles Sumner," stanzas 8 and 9, The Poetical Works of Longfellow, p. 324 (1893, reprinted 1975).

Death

What an artist dies with me!

Nero

From Suetonius, Nero, sec. 49

Death

What man who dreads not death can be a slave?

Euripides (485-406 B.C.)

Quoted in Plutarch's Moralia

Death

Whatsoever state [of being] meditating upon

He leaves the body at death,

To just that he goes, son of Kunti,

Always being made to be in the condition of that.

Bhagavad Gita

Gita 8, 6

Death

When death overtakes us; all that we have is left to others; all that we are we take with us.

Author Unknown

Death

When I am dead, my dearest,

Sing no sad songs for me.

Christina Rossetti

Death

When immortal Death has taken mortal life.

Lucretius [Titus Lucretius Carus]

De Rerum Natura, III, 869

Death

When life is so burdensome, death has become for man a sought after refuge.

Herodotus

Death

Wheresoever ye be, death will overtake you, although ye be in lofty towers.

The Koran

Chapter 4

Death

While you are not able to serve men, how can you serve spirits [of the dead]?….While you do not know life, how can you know about death?

Confucius

The Confucian Analects, 11:11

Death

Whom the gods love dies young.

Menander

The Double Deceiver, fragment 125

Death

Why dost thou not retire like a guest sated with the banquet of life, and with calm mind embrace, thou fool, a rest that knows no care?

Lucretius [Titus Lucretius Carus]

De Rerum Natura, III, 938

Death

Will you not allow that I have as much of the spirit of prophecy in me as the swans? For they, when they perceive that they must die, having sung all their life long, do then sing more lustily than ever, rejoicing in the thought that they are going to the god they serve.

Plato

Dialogues, Phaedo, 85

Death

Yet with his powers of augury he [Chromis] did not save himself from dark death.

Homer

The Iliad, II, 859

Death

You will hang like an icicle on a Dutchman's beard.

William Shakespeare

Twelfth-Night, III, ii, 30

Death

Your death and my death are mainly of importance to ourselves. The black plumes will be stripped off our hearses within the hour; tears will dry, hurt hearts close again, our graves grow level with the church-yard, and although we are away, the world wags on. It does not miss us; and those who are near us, when the first strangeness of vacancy wears off, will not miss us much either.

Alexander Smith, "Of Death and the Fear of Dying," Dreamthorp: A Book of Essays Written in the Country, pp. 70-71 (1864, reprinted 1972).

Death

[In answer to a question as to what sort of death was the best] A sudden death.

Julius Caesar

From Plutarch, Lives, Caesar, sec. 63

Death

[On learning that the sides of a ship were four fingers thick] The passengers are just that distance from death.

Anarcharsis

From Diogenes Laertius, Anarcharsis 5

Debt

"My other piece of advice, Copperfield," said Mr. Micawber, "you know. Annual income twenty pounds, annual expenditure nineteen nineteen six, result happiness. Annual income twenty pounds, annual expenditure twenty pounds ought and six, result misery. The blossom is blighted, the leaf is withered, the god of day goes down upon the dreary scene, and—and, in short, you are for ever floored. As I am!"

Charles Dickens, David Copperfield, chapter 12, p. 185 (1950). First published 1849-1850.

Debt

A church debt is the devil's salary.

Henry Ward Beecher

Debt

And to preserve their independence, we must not let our rulers load us with perpetual debt. We must make our election between economy and liberty, or profusion and servitude.

Thomas Jefferson, letter to Samuel Kercheval, July 12, 1816.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Paul S. Ford, vol. 10, p. 41 (1899).

Debt

Any government, like any family, can for a year spend a little more than it earns. But you and I know that a continuance of that habit means the poorhouse.

Franklin D. Roosevelt

Debt

As an individual who undertakes to live by borrowing, soon finds his

original means devoured by interest, and next no one left to borrow from—so must it be with a government.

Abraham Lincoln, campaign circular from Whig Committee, March 4, 1843.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P Basler, vol. 1, p. 311 (1953).

Debt

By no means run in debt: take thine own measure.

Who cannot live on twenty pound a year,

Cannot on forty.

George Herbert

The Temple. The Church Porch, 30

Debt

Debt is the fatal disease of republics; the first thing and the mightiest to undermine governments and corrupt people.

Wendell Phillips

Debt

He is rich whose income is more than his expenses, and he is poor who expenses exceed his income.

Jean de la Bruyere

Debt

He that dies pays all debts.

William Shakespeare

The Tempest, III, ii, 143

Debt

I am for a government rigorously frugal & simple, applying all the possible savings of the public revenue to the discharge of the national debt; and not for a multiplication of officers & salaries merely to make partisans, & for increasing, by every device, the public debt, on the principle of it's being a public blessing.

Vice President Thomas Jefferson, letter to Elbridge Gerry, January 26, 1799.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Paul L. Ford, vol. 7, p. 327 (1896).

Debt

I wish it were possible to obtain a single amendment to our constitution. I would be willing to depend on that alone for the reduction of the administration of our government to the genuine principles of it's constitution; I mean an additional article, taking from the federal government the power of borrowing.

Vice President Thomas Jefferson, letter to John Taylor, November 26, 1798.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Paul L. Ford, vol. 7, p. 310 (1896).

Debt

I, however, place economy among the first and most important of republican virtues, and public debt as the greatest of the dangers to be feared.

Thomas Jefferson, letter to William Plumer, July 21, 1816.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Andrew A. Lipscomb, vol. 15, p. 47 (1903).

Debt

In his first years in the White House, Mr: Roosevelt apologized for each annual deficit. Each new budget message explained that, because of unforeseen circumstances, the promise of the previous year had not been met, but next year things would be better; next year there would be a balanced budget…. The 1938 congressional elections were uncomfortably near at hand…. it was announced that the President would deliver a fireside chat. In it our startled ears caught the opening accents of a grand new liturgy. Spending would be resumed, but let not the heart be troubled. Spending was no longer the rock of unsound finance on which so many liberal governments had been wrecked; it was not danger, but Security. Debt, if owed to ourselves, was not debt but investment.

Bruce Barton, "A Businessman's Doubts on Government Spending," Fortune, February 1943, p. 136.

Debt

Lying rides upon the debt's back.

Benjamin Franklin

Debt

Never be argued out of your soul; never be argued out of your honor, and never be argued into believing that soul and honor do not run a terrible risk if you limp into life with the load of debt on your shoulders.

Edward Bulwer-Lytton

Debt

One of the greatest disservices you can do a man is to lend him money that he can't pay back.

Jesse H. Jones, chairman of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation and later secretary of commerce.—The New York Times Magazine, July 2, 1939, p. 4.

Debt

Our national debt after all is an internal debt owed not only by the Nation but to the Nation. If our children have to pay interest on it they will pay that interest to themselves. A reasonable internal debt will not impoverish our children or put the Nation into bankruptcy.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt, address to the American Retail Federation, Washington, D.C., May 22, 1939.—The Public Papers and Addresses of Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1939, p. 351 (1941).

Debt

Rather go to bed supperless than rise in debt.

Benjamin Franklin

Debt

Some people who buy on time don't know when time leaves off and eternity begins.

Fay Egan

Debt

Such was the origin of that debt which has since become the greatest prodigy that ever perplexed the sagacity and confounded the pride of statesmen and philosophers. At every stage in the growth of that debt the nation has set up the same cry of anguish and despair. At every stage in the growth of that debt it has been seriously asserted by wise men that bankruptcy and ruin were at hand. Yet still the debt went on growing; and still bankruptcy and ruin were as remote as ever.

Thomas Babington Macaulay, History of England, vol. 8 (The Complete Writings of Lord Macaulay, vol. 8), chapter 19, p. 70 (1899).

Debt

The second vice is lying, the first is running in debt.

Benjamin Franklin

Debt

Those have a short Lent, who owe money to be paid at Easter.

Benjamin Franklin

Debt

A small debt produces a debtor, a large one an enemy

Publilius Syrus

Debt

If I owe Smith ten dollars, and God forgives me, that doesn't pay Smith.

Robert G. Ingersoll

Deceit

Hateful to me as the gates of Hades is that man who hides one thing in his heart and speaks another.

Homer

Deceit

In the one hand he is carrying a stone, while he shows the bread in the other.

Plautus

Deceit

The lamb began to follow the wolf in sheep's clothing.

Aesop

Decisions

But since the French Revolution Englishmen are all intermeasurable one by another. Certainly a happy state of agreement to which I for one do not agree, God keeps me from the divinity of yes & no too, the yea nay creeping Jesus, from supposing Up & Down to be the same thing.

William Blake

Quoted by Prof. Thomas Parkinson, The Nation, November 30, 1957.

Decisions

Some problems are so complex that you have to be highly intelligent and well informed just to be undecided about them.

Laurence J. Peter, Peter's Almanac, entry for September 24 (1982).

Decisions

Somewhere deep down we know that in the final analysis we do decide things and that even our decisions to let someone else decide are really our decisions, however pusillanimous.

Harvey G. Cox, On Not Leaving It to the Snake, p. viii (1967).

Quoted as "Not to decide is to decide" in Peter's Quotations by Laurence J. Peter, p. 297 (1977).

Decisions

We have a choice: to plow new ground or let the weeds grow.

Attributed to Jonathan Westover, a fictitious person. This sentence originally appeared in a Virginia Department of Agriculture report for fiscal year 1958-1959 entitled Plowed Ground. When the authors were pushed by a deadline and unable to find the kind of quotation they wanted, they made one up. In January 1970 the sentence was used on the cover of a Virginia Mental Health Commission report, This Commonwealth's Commitment. An effort to learn more about Westover after this report appeared uncovered the origin of the Sentence.—Richmond Times-Dispatch, January 26, 1970, p. BI.

Decisions

I've got to decide whether I want to be a famous author or an infamous diner-outer. I cannot be both.

Channing Pollock

Decisions

If it is to be, it is up to me.

A mountain climber

Decisions

There is no right way to do a wrong thing.

Author Unknown

Decisions

You are the trip I did not take.

You are the pearls I cannot buy.

You are my blue Italian lake.

You are my piece of foreign sky.

Anne Campbell

Declaration of Independence

Grateful to Almighty God for the blessing which, through Jesus Christ our Lord, he has conferred on my beloved country in her emancipation, and on myself in permitting me under circumstances of mercy to live to the age of eighty-nine years, and to survive the fiftieth year of American Independence adopted by Congress on the 4th of July 1776, which I originally subscribed on the 2nd of August of the same year, and of which I am now the last surviving signer, I do now here recommend to the present and future generation the principles of that important document as the best earthly inheritance their ancestors could bequeath to them, and pray that the civil and religious liberties they have secured to my country may be perpetuated to the remotest posterity and extend to the whole family of man!

Charles Carroll

Declaration of Independence

I am well aware of the Toil and Blood and Treasure, that it will cost us to maintain this Declaration, and support and defend these States.—Yet through all the Gloom I can see the Rays of ravishing Light and Glory. I can see that the End is more than worth all the Means. And that Posterity will tryumph in that Days Transaction, even altho We should rue it, which I trust in God We shall not.

John Adams, letter to Abigail Adams, July 3, 1776.—Adams Family Correspondence, ed. L. H. Butterfield, vol. 2, p. 31 (1963).

Declaration of Independence

In 1776, the Americans laid before Europe that noble Declaration, which ought to be hung up in the nursery of every king, and blazoned on the porch of every royal palace.

Henry Thomas Buckle, History of Civilization in England, vol. 2, chapter 7, p.341 (1903). First published in 1861.

Declaration of Independence

We hold these truths to be sacred and undeniable; that all men are created equal & independant, that from that equal creation they derive rights inherent and inalienable, among which are the preservation of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Thomas Jefferson, "'Original Rough Draught' of the Declaration of Independence" June 1776.—The Papers of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Julian P Boyd, vol. 1, p. 423 (1950).

Declaration of Independence

We hold these truths to be self-evident: That all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain inalienable rights, among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, that to secure these rights governments are instituted among men. We…solemnly publish and declare, that these colonies are and of right ought to be free and independent states…and for the support of this declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of divine providence, we mutually pledge our lives, our fortunes and our sacred honour.

Thomas Jefferson, "The Declaration of Independence," The Papers of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Julian P Boyd, vol. 1, pp. 429, 432 (1950).

Inscription on the southwest quadrant of the Jefferson Memorial, Washington, D.C. The inscription contains the ellipses above, but it omits other words without ellipses.

Declaration of Independence

We must all hang together, or most assuredly we shall all hang separately.

Currently attributed to Benjamin Franklin,

at the Signing of the Declaration of Independence

in 1776, by many dictionaries of quotations.

For notes concerning its authenticity, see

Ben Franklin Laughing, ed. P M. Sall, p. 154 (1980).

Declaration of Independence

We must never cease to proclaim in fearless tones the great principles of freedom and the rights of man which are the joint inheritance of the English-speaking world and which through Magna Carta, the Bill of Rights, the Habeas Corpus, trial by jury, and the English common law find their most famous expression in the American Declaration of Independence.

Winston Churchill, "The Sinews of Peace," address at Westminster College, Fulton, Missouri, March 5, 1946.—Winston S. Churchill: His Complete Speeches, 1897-1963, ed. Robert Rhodes James, vol. 7, p. 7288 (1974).

Churchill noted at the beginning of his speech that it was unusual for a private visitor to be introduced to an academic audience by the president of the United States, and that he was honored that President Truman had traveled a thousand miles to join them. Churchill and Truman had traveled together from Washington, D.C., by train.

Declaration of Independence

When I signed the Declaration of Independence I had in view not only our independence from England but the toleration of all sects.

Charles Carroll

Letter to G. W. Parke Custis.

Dedication

I am in earnest I will not equivocate I will not excuse I will not retreat a single inch And I will be heard.

William Lloyd Garrison

Dedication

If absence makes the heart grow fonder, how some people must love the church.

Author Unknown

Defeat

But man is not made for defeat. A man can be destroyed but not defeated.

Ernest Hemingway, The Old Man and the Sea, p. 113 (1952).

Defeat

Cease your efforts to find where the last rose lingers.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Odes, I, xxxviii, 3

Defeat

He said that he felt "like the boy that stumped his toe,—'it hurt too bad to laugh, and he was too big to cry.'"

Attributed to Abraham Lincoln by John T. Morse, Jr., Abraham Lincoln, vol. 1, p. 149 (1893), referring to Lincoln's defeat by Senator Stephen Douglas in the 1858 senatorial campaign in Illinois.Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper, November 22, 1862, p. 131, attributed this reply to President Lincoln, when asked how he felt about the result of the New York election (where the Democratic candidate won the governorship]: "Somewhat like that boy in Kentucky, who stubbed his toe while running to see his sweetheart. The boy said he was too big to cry, and far too badly hurt to laugh."

Adlai Stevenson told this story in his nationally-televised concession speech after the 1952 presidential election: "Someone asked me, as I came in, down on the street, how I felt, and I was reminded of a story that a fellow-townsman of ours used to tell—Abraham Lincoln. They asked him how he felt once after an unsuccessful election. He said that he was too old to cry, but it hurt too much to laugh."—The Papers of Adlai E. Stevenson, ed. Walter Johnson, vol. 4, p. 188 (1974). The speech was delivered at the Leland Hotel Springfield, Illinois, in the early hours of November 5, 1952.

Defeat

There are occasions when it is undoubtedly better to incur loss than to make gain.

Titus Maccius Plautus

Captivi, act II, sc. ii, l. 77

Defeat

Thermopylae had her messenger of defeat—the Alamo had none.

Attributed to Thomas Jefferson Green. Green is said to have included the sentence in a speech he helped Edward Burleson prepare. While Burleson has often been credited with originating the sentence as well as using it, he lacked the classical education necessary to have made the allusion. The sentence became popular after it was engraved on the first monument to the Alamo, which is located in Austin, Texas. The 10-foot-high statue, made of stones from the Alamo, was destroyed by fire when the Capitol at Austin burned. Another monument subsequently erected on the Capitol grounds also included the sentence.—J. Frank Dobie, "The Alamo's Immortalization of Words," Southwest Review, summer 1942, pp 406-10.

Government

A government without the power of defence! It is a solecism.

James Wilson, speech, Pennsylvania Convention on the adoption of the Federal Constitution, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, December 11, 1787.—The Debates in the Several State Conventions on the Adoption of the Federal Constitution, ed. Jonathan Elliot, vol. 2, p. 520 (1836).Wilson, the leader of the Federalist forces at the convention, was the only member of the Pennsylvania Convention who had been part of the Federal Convention writing the Constitution.

Defense

A strong defense is the surest way to peace. Strength makes defense attainable. Weakness invites war, as my generation—my generation—knows from four very bitter experiences. Just as America's will for peace is second to none, so will America's strength be second to none. We cannot rely on the forbearance of others to protect this Nation. The power and diversity of the Armed Forces, active Guard and Reserve, the resolve of our fellow citizens, the flexibility in our command to navigate international waters that remain troubled are all essential to our security.

President Gerald R. Ford, address to a joint session of Congress, August 12, 1974.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Gerald R. Ford, 1974, p. 11.

Defense

All the armies of Europe, Asia and Africa combined, with all the treasure

of the earth (our own excepted) in their military chest; with a Buonaparte for a commander, could not by force take a drink from the Ohio or make a track on the Blue Ridge in a trial of a thousand years.

Abraham Lincoln, address before the Young Men's Lyceum, Springfield, Illinois, January 27, 1838.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P. Basler, vol. 1, p. 109 (1953).

Defense

Assassinate me you may; intimidate me you cannot.

John Philpot Curran (1750-1817)

Defense of Rebels (Irish uprising, 1798)

Defense

De l'audace, et encore de l'audace, et toujours de l'audace, et la France est sauvée.

Boldness, more boldness, and always boldness, and France is saved.

Georges Jacques Danton (1759-guillotined 1794)

Address, Legislative Committee of General Defense, Sept. 2, 1792

Defense

Fifth Column.

Emilio Mola. A term used by General Mola during the seige of Madrid in 1936, referring to the contingent of supporters within the city who would aid the army's four columns attacking from outside. A fully documented account of the term, its spread, its popularity, and its change of meaning may be found in Dwight L. Bolinger, "Fifth Column Marches On," American Speech, February 1944, pp. 47-49. The first use in English, in a report from Spain, appears in The New York Times, October 17, 1936, p. 9, col. 4.

Defense

I do not hold that we should rearm in order to fight. I hold that we should rearm in order to parley.

Prime Minister Winston Churchill, radio broadcast, London, October 8, 1951.—Winston S. Churchill: His Complete Speeches, 1897-1963, ed. Robert Rhodes James, vol. 8, p. 8257 (1974).

Defense

If to please the people, we offer what we ourselves disapprove. How can we afterwards defend ourselves?

George Washington

Defense

If we desire to avoid insult, we must be able to repel it; if we desire to secure peace, one of the most powerful instruments of our rising prosperity, it must be known, that we are at all times ready for War.

President George Washington, fifth annual address to Congress, December 13, 1793.—The Writings of George Washington, ed. John C. Fitzpatrick, vol. 33, p. 166 (1940).

Defense

It is vain to look for a defense against lightning.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 835

Defense

That is not to say that we can relax our readiness to defend ourselves. Our armament must be adequate to the needs, but our faith is not primarily in these machines of defense but in ourselves.

Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, Speech at the University of California, Berkeley, March 22, 1950.—The San Francisco Chronicle, March 23, 1950, p. 7, reported only the second sentence, but both can be found on a typed line of quotations by Admiral Nimitz received from the Navy Department Library.

Defense

The liberties of our country, the freedom of our civil constitution are worth defending at all hazards; and it is our duty to defend them against all attacks. We have received them as a fair inheritance from our worthy ancestors: they purchased them for us with toil and danger and expense of treasure and blood, and transmitted them to us with care and diligence. It will bring an everlasting mark of infamy on the present generation, enlightened as it is, if we should suffer them to be wrested from us by violence without a struggle, or be cheated out of them by the artifices of false and designing men.

Samuel Adams

Article published in 1771.

Defense

The Soviets have really been quite single-minded. They increased their defense expenditures as we increased ours. And they increased their defense expenditures as we decreased ours.

Harold Brown, Secretary of defense, testimony, January 31, 1979.—Department of Defense Appropriations for Fiscal Year 1980, hearings before a Subcommittee of the Committee on Appropriations, United States Senate, 96th Congress, 1st session, p. 278 (1979).More succinctly, Brown noted, "Soviet spending has shown no response to U.S. restraint—when we build they build; when we cut they build," in a statement before a joint meeting of the House and Senate Budget Committees in early 1979 regarding the fiscal 1980 budget.

Defense

The worst to be feared and the best to be expected can be simply stated.

The worst is atomic war.

The best would be this: a life of perpetual fear and tension; a burden of arms draining the wealth and the labor of all peoples; a wasting of strength that defies the American system or the Soviet system or any system to achieve true abundance and happiness for the peoples of this earth.

Every gun that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired signifies, in the final sense, a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and are not clothed.

This world in arms is not spending money alone.

It is spending the sweat of its laborers, the genius of its scientists, the hopes of its children.

The cost of one modern heavy bomber is this: a modern brick school in more than 30 cities.

It is two electric power plants, each serving a town of 60,000 population.

It is two fine, fully equipped hospitals.

It is some 50 miles of concrete highway.

We pay for a single fighter plane with a half million bushels of wheat.

We pay for a single destroyer with new homes that could have housed more than 8,000 people.

This, I repeat, is the best way of life to be found on the road the world has been taking.

This is not a way of life at all, in any true sense. Under the cloud of threatening war, it is humanity hanging from a cross of iron.

President Dwight D. Eisenhower, "The Chance for Peace," address delivered before the American Society of Newspaper Editors, Washington, D.C., April 16, 1953.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Dwight D. Eisenhower 1953, p. 182.

Defense

To draw around the whole nation the strength of the General Government, as a barrier against foreign foes,…to equalize and moderate the public contributions, that while the requisite services are invited by due renumeration, nothing beyond this may exist to attract the attention of our citizens from the pursuits of useful industry, nor unjustly to burthen those who continue in those pursuits—these are functions of the General Government on which you have a right to call.

President Thomas Jefferson, letter to Amos Marsh, November 20, 1801.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Andrew A. Lipscomb, vol. 10, p. 293 (1903).

Defense

Today is Trinity Sunday. Centuries ago words were written to be a call and a spur to the faithful servants of Truth and Justice: "Arm yourselves, and be ye men of valor, and be in readiness for the conflict; for it is better for us to perish in battle than to look upon the outrage of our nation and our altar. As the Will of God is in Heaven, even so let it be."

Winston Churchill, first radio address as prime minister, London, May 19, 1940.—Winston S. Churchill: His Complete Speeches, 1897-1963, ed. Robert Rhodes James, vol. 6, p. 6223 (1974). He was referring to the heroism of the biblical Maccabees found in I Maccabees (Apocrypha) 3:58-60.

Defense

We are confident that we can penetrate any enemy defenses with our missiles. We know that we are more than the equal of any nation in the world.

Robert S. Mcnamara, secretary of defense, conversation with newsmen after testifying before a joint session of the Senate Armed Services Committee and Defense Appropriations subcommittee, January 24, 1967, as reported by The New York Times, January 25, 1967, p. 17. McNamara denied there was an antimissile gap.

Deity

Day and night; and every moment; there are voices about us. All the hours speak as they pass; and in every event there is a message to us; and all our

circumstances talk with us; but it is in divine language; that worldliness misunderstands; that selfishness is frightened at; and that only the children of God hear rightly and happily.

William Mountford

Deity

The man who loves God; loves also the man whom God loves.

Author Unknown

Demeanor

If a good face is a letter of recommendation, a good heart is a letter of credit.

Author Unknown

Democracy

A democracy cannot exist as a permanent form of government. It can only exist until the voters discover that they can vote themselves largesse from the public treasury. From that moment on, the majority always votes for the candidates promising the most benefits from the public treasury with the result that a democracy always collapses over loose fiscal policy, always followed by a dictatorship. The average age of the world's greatest civilizations has been 200 years.

Attributed to Alexander Fraser Tytler, LORD WOODHOUSELEE. Unverified.

Democracy

A democracy is a government in the hands of men of low birth, no property, and unskilled labor.

Aristotle

Democracy

A democracy is no more than an aristocracy of orators. The people are so readily moved by demagogues that control must be exercised by the government over speech and press.

Thomas Hobbes

Democracy

A democracy unsatisfied [by support of the people] cannot long survive…. We live in probably the most turbulent and tormented times in the history of this nation. Criticize…disagree, yes, but also we have as leaders an obligation to be fair and keep in perspective what we are and what we hope to be.

John B. Connally, Jr., secretary of the treasury, off-the-cuff remarks at American Society of Newspaper Editors luncheon, Washington, D.C., April 19, 1972, as reported by The Washington Post, April 20, 1972, p. C3.

Democracy

All of our greatness was born of liberty, even our commercialism was rocked in the cradle of democracy, and we cannot strangle the mother without destroying her children.

John Peter Altgeld

Democracy

As I would not be a slave, so I would not be a master. This expresses my idea of democracy.

Abraham Lincoln

Democracy

…that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.

Abraham Lincoln

Democracy

Democracy arises out of the notion that those who are equal in any respect are equal in all respects; because men are equally free, they claim to be absolutely equal.

Aristotle

Politics, V, 1

Democracy

Democracy arose from men's thinking that if they are equal in any respect, they are equal absolutely.

Aristotle

Democracy

Democracy becomes a government of bullies, tempered by editors.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Journals

Democracy

Democracy has given to conscience absolute liberty.

George Bancroft

Address to the Democratic Elector of Massachusetts, Boston Post,

October 16, 1835.

Democracy

Democracy is cumbersome, slow and inefficient, but in due time, the voice of the people will be heard and their latent wisdom will prevail.

Author unknown. Attributed to Thomas Jefferson, but unverified.

Democracy

Democracy is direct self-government, over all the people, for all the people, by all the people.

Theodore Parker

Democracy

Democracy is that form of society, no matter what its political classification, in which every man has a chance and knows that he has it.

James Russell Lowell

Democracy

Democracy is the theory that the common people know what they want, and deserve to get it good and hard.

H. L. Mencken, A Little Book in C Major p. 19 (1916).

Democracy

Democracy is the worst system ever invented. Except for all the rest.

Winston Churchill

Democracy

Democracy means not "I'm as good as you are," but "you're as good as I am."

Theodore Parker

Democracy

Democracy passes in to despotism.

Plato

The Republic, VIII, 562-A

Democracy

Democracy will prevail when men believe the vote of Judas as good as that of Jesus Christ.

Attributed to Thomas Carlyle, by Wendell Phillips, in "The Scholar in a Republic," address at the centennial anniversary of the Phi Beta Kappa of Harvard College, Cambridge, Massachusetts, June 30, 1881.—Carlos Martyn, Wendell Phillips, the Agitator p. 581 (1890). Unverified.

Democracy

Democracy, I do not conceive that ever God did ordain it as a fit government either for church or commonwealth. If the people be governors, who will be governed? As for monarchy, and aristocracy, they are both of them clearly approved, and directed in Scripture, yet so as referreth the sovereignty to Himself, and setteth theocracy in both, as the best form of government in the commonwealth, as well as in the church.

John Cotton (1584-1652)

The Bloody Tenant Washed and Made White in the Blood of the Lamb

Democracy

Democracy, which is a charming form of government, full of variety and disorder, and dispensing a sort of equality to equals and unequals alike.

Plato

The Republic, VIII, 558-C

Democracy

Democracy.

Sir Thomas Elyot (1490-1546)

Coined word, derived from the Greek. Used, according to the O.E.D. in 1531, in Gov. I.ii

Democracy

Here is Democracy's opportunity. Here is the opportunity to be of Service to the people. Here is the chance for this party to have been of service to the people of the United States. Here is our chance to have been of help to the poor man. Here is our chance to have relieved him of the burdens and to have given him the benefits of a government that could have promoted the enterprises and furnished the conveniences and the facilities needed by every man, woman, and child in this country.

Senator Huey Long, remarks in the Senate, May 17, 1932, Congressional Record, vol. 75, p. 10394.

Democracy

I have long been convinced that institutions purely democratic must, sooner or later, destroy liberty, or civilization, or both.

Thomas Babington Macaulay, letter to Henry Stephens Randall, May 23, 1857.—The Letters of Thomas Babington Macaulay, ed. Thomas Pinney, vol. 6, p. 94 (1981).

Democracy

I have not the smallest doubt that, if we had a purely democratic government here, the effect would be the same. Either the poor would plunder the rich, and civilization would perish; or order and property would be saved by a strong military government, and liberty would perish.

Thomas Babington Macaulay, letter to Henry Stephens Randall, May 23, 1857.—The Letters of Thomas Babington Macaulay, ed. Thomas Pinney, vol. 6, pp. 94-95 (1981).

Democracy

I have the happiness to know that it [democracy] is rising, and not a setting sun.

Benjamin Franklin

Democracy

In democracy, liberty is to be supposed; for it is commonly held that no man is free in any other government.

Aristotle

Quoted by Hobbes, Leviathan.

Democracy

It is not, perhaps, unreasonable to conclude, that a pure and perfect democracy is a thing not attainable by man, constituted as he is of contending elements of vice and virtue, and ever mainly influenced by the predominant principle of self-interest. It may, indeed, be confidently asserted, that there never was that government called a republic, which was not ultimately ruled by a single will, and, therefore, (however bold may seem the paradox,) virtually and substantially a monarchy.

Alexander Fraser Tytler, LORD WOODHOUSELEE, University History, vol. 1, book 2, chapter 6, p. 216 (1838).

Democracy

It is the besetting vice of democracies to substitute public opinion for law. This is the usual form in which the masses of men exhibit their tyranny.

James Fenimore Cooper (1789-1851)

The American Democrat (1838)

Democracy

Many forms of Government have been tried, and will be tried in this world of sin and woe. No one pretends that democracy is perfect or all-wise. Indeed, it has been said that democracy is the worst form of Government except all those other forms that have been tried from time to time.

Winston Churchill, speech, House of Commons, November 11, 1947.—Winston S. Churchill: His Complete Speeches, 1897-1963, ed. Robert Rhodes James, vol. 7, p. 7566 (1974).

Democracy

Our inequality materializes our upper classes, vulgarizes our middle class, brutalizes our lower class.

Matthew Arnold

Democracy

Our real disease—which is Democracy.

Alexander Hamilton

Democracy

Remember, democracy never lasts long. It soon wastes, exhausts, and murders itself. There never was a democracy yet that did not commit suicide.

John Adams, letter to John Taylor, April 15, 1814.—The Works of John Adams, ed. Charles Francis Adams, vol. 6, p. 484 (1851).

Democracy

The cause of democracy is the cause of pure religion not less than that of justice; it is the cause of practical Christianity.

George Bancroft

To Sylvester Judd, et al., Boston Courier, October 22, 1834.

Democracy

The cure for the evils of democracy is more democracy!

H. L. Mencken, Notes on Democracy, pp. 4, 73 (1926).

Democracy

The insolence of demagogues is generally the cause of ruin in democracies. First, they calumniate the wealthy and rouse them against the government, thus causing opposite parties to unite against a common danger. Next, they produce the same result by stirring up the populace and creating a sense of insecurity. Nearly all the tyrants of old began with being demagogues.

Aristotle

Democracy

The primal principle of democracy is the worth and dignity of the individual. The inequalities of men and the lust of acquisition are a constant premium on lying. Not higher wages, but honor and hope of men's gratitude, patriotism and the inspiration of duty, were the motives which they set before their soldiers when it was a question of dying for the nation; and never was an age of the world when these motives did not call out what is best and noblest in men.

Edward Bellamy

Looking Backward, 1887.

Democracy

The tendencies of democracies are, in all things, to mediocrity, since the tastes, knowledge and principles of the majority form the tribunal of appeal.

James Fenimore Cooper

Democracy

The two greatest obstacles to democracy in the United States are, first, the widespread delusion among the poor that we have a democracy, and second, the chronic terror among the rich, lest we get it.

Edward Dowling, S.J;

Quoted in Chicago Daily News, August 28, 1941

Democracy

The whole dream of democracy is to elevate the proletarian to the level of the imbecility of the bourgeois.

Gustave Flaubert (1821-1880)

Letters, 1871

Democracy

The worst form of inequality is to try to make unequal things equal.

Aristotle

Democracy

There is no form of Government but what may be a blessing to the people if well administered…this [government] is likely to be well administered for a course of years, and can only end in Despotism as other forms have done before it, when the people shall become so corrupted as to need despotic government, being incapable of any other.

Benjamin Franklin

Democracy

There never was a democracy that did not commit suicide.

Samuel Adams

Democracy

When I examined my political faith I found that my strongest belief was in democracy according to my own definition. Democracy—the essential thing as distinguished from this or that democratic government—was primarily an attitude of mind, a spiritual testament, and not an economic structure or a political machine. The testament involved certain basic beliefs—that the personality was sacrosanct, which was the meaning of liberty; that policy should be settled by free discussion; that normally a minority should be ready to yield to a majority, which in turn should respect a minority's sacred things. It seemed to me that democracy had been in the past too narrowly defined and had been identified illogically with some particular economic or political system such as laissez-faire or British parliamentarism. I could imagine a democracy which economically was largely socialist and which had not our constitutional pattern.

John Buchan, LORD TWEEDSMUIR, Pilgrim's Way, p. 222 (1940, reprinted 1979).

Democracy

You can never have a revolution in order to establish a democracy. You must have a democracy in order to have a revolution.

G. K. Chesterton, Tremendous Trifles, chapter 12, p. 63 (1955).

Democratic Party/Democrats

I am not a member of any organized party—I am a Democrat.

Will Rogers.—P J. O'Brien, Will Rogers, Ambassador of Good Will, Prince of Wit and Wisdom, chapter 9, p. 162 (1935)."Rogers was a lifelong Democrat but he studiously avoided partisanship. He contributed to the Democratic campaign funds, but at the same time he frequently appeared on benefit programs to raise money for the Republican treasury. Republican leaders sought his counsel in their campaigns as often as did the Democrats" (p. 162).

Democratic Party/Democrats

No, Sir, th' dimmycratic party ain't on speakin' terms with itsilf. Whin ye see two men with white neckties go into a sthreet car an' set in opposite corners while wan mutthers "Thraiter" an' th' other hisses "Miscreent" ye can bet they're two dimmycratic leaders thryin' to reunite th' gran' ol' party.

Finley Peter Dunne, Mr Dooley's Opinions, p. 93 (1901).

Democratic Party/Democrats

The democrat is a young conservative; the conservative an old democrat. The aristocrat is the democrat ripe and gone to seed.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Representative Men (1850), "Napoleon; or, The Man of the World"

Democratic Party/Democrats

The Democratic Party is like a mule—without pride of ancestry or hope of posterity.

Edmund Burke

Democratic Party/Democrats

The southern Democrats are in the saddle and the northern Democrats must tag along as best they may, no matter what ill may betide.

Representative John Jacob Rogers, remarks in the House, May 2, 1913, Congressional Record, vol. 50, p. 42.

Democratic Party/Democrats

We can make this thing into a Party, instead of a Memory.

Will Rogers, letter to Al Smith regarding the Democratic party, January 19, 1929.—The Autobiography of Will Rogers, ed. Donald Day, p. 197 (1949).

Democratic Party/Democrats

You've got to be [an] optimist to be a Democrat, and you've got to be a humorist to stay one.

Will Rogers, Good Gulf radio show, June 24, 1934.—Radio Broadcasts of Will Rogers, ed. Steven K. Gragert, p. 92 (1983).

Desire

A desire can overcome all objections and obstacles.

Gunderson

Desire

I declared to Your Highnesses that all the gain of this my Enterprise should be spent in the conquest of Jerusalem; and Your Highnesses smiled and said that it pleased you, and that even without this you had that strong desire.

Christopher Columbus

Journal of the First Voyage, December 26, 1492

Desire

It is easier to suppress the first desire than to satisfy all that follow it.

Benjamin Franklin

Desire

It is right to be contented with what we have, but never with what we are.

Author Unknown

Desire

No person can arise above his real desire. Desires are of value only when they drive us to action. Will and work must accompany desire. Then high resolve is born. Desire is the design—Will spurs us into achievement—Work achieves.

Author Unknown

Desire

We desire nothing so much as what we ought not to have.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 559

Desire

When desire and will and work move together, in the right direction, nothing can stop us.

Author Unknown

Desire

Yet—I am not more sure that my soul lives, than I am that perverseness is one of the primitive impulses of the human heart—one of the indivisible primary faculties, or sentiments, which give direction to the character of Man.

Edgar Allan Poe, "The Black Cat," Edgar Allan Poe, ed. Philip Van Doren Stern, p. 299 (1945). Originally published in 1843.

Desire

Your lot is mortal: not mortal is what you desire.

Ovid [Publius Ovidius Naso]

Metamorphoses, II, 56

Desire

[Desire] is a perpetual rack, or horsemill, according to Austin [St. Augustine], still going round as in a ring.

Robert Burton

Anatomy of Melancholy, I, 2, 3, 11

Destiny

Come of it what may, as Sinon said.

Phaedrus

Fables, III, prologue, 27

Destiny

Destiny waits alike for the free man as well as for him enslaved by another's might.

Aeschylus

Destiny

Experience has shown that to be true which Appius says in his verses, that every man is the architect of his own fortune.

Sallust [Gaius Sallustius Crispus]

Speech to Caesar on the State, sec. 1

Destiny

He that is born to be hanged shall never be drowned.

Thomas Fuller

Destiny

Intellect annuls fate. So far as man thinks, he is free.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Destiny

Is the great working class oppressed? Yes, undoubtedly it is. God has intended the great to be great and the little to be little.

Henry Ward Beecher

New York Times, July 30, 1877.

Destiny

It was ordained at the beginning of the world that certain signs should prefigure certain events.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

De Divinatione, I, 118

Destiny

Lead me, Zeus, and you, Fate, wherever you have assigned me. I shall follow without hesitation; but even if I am disobedient and do not wish to, I shall follow no less surely.

Cleanthes

From Epictetus, Enchiridion, 53

Destiny

Man will never reach his destiny until he realizes there is as much dignity in tilling the soil as there is in writing a poem.

Booker T. Washington

Destiny

Nature—pitiless in a pitiless universe—is certainly not concerned with the survival of Americans or, for that matter, of any of the two billion people now inhabiting this earth. Hence, our destiny, with the aid of God, remains in our own hands.

Senator J. William Fulbright, remarks in the Senate, February 2, 1954, Congressional Record, vol. 100, p. 1106.

Destiny

No man is ever born into the world whose work is not born with him.

James Russell Lowell

Destiny

One told me of thy fate, Heraclitus, and wrung me to tears.

Callimachus

Greek Anthology, J.W. Mackail, ed [1906], sec. 4, no. 31

Destiny

The die is cast.

Julius Caesar

From Plutarch, Lives, Caesar, sec. 32

Destiny

The future destiny of the child is always the work of the mother.

Napoleon Bonaparte

Destiny

The life of every man is a diary in which he means to write one story, and writes another, and his humblest hour is when he compares the volume as it is written with what he vowed to make it.

James M. Barrie

Destiny

[Ivan:] "Imagine that you are creating a fabric of human destiny with the object of making men happy in the end, giving them peace and rest at last, but that it was essential and inevitable to torture to death only one tiny creature—that baby beating its breast with its fist, for instance—and to found that edifice on its unavenged tears, would you consent to be the architect on those conditions? Toll me, and tell the truth."

"No, I wouldn't consent,' said Alyosha softly.

Fyodor Dostoyevski,

The Brothers Karamazov, part 2, book 5,

chapter 4, p. 291 (1945).

Details

For want of a nail the shoe was lost; for want of a shoe the horse was lost; and for want of a horse the rider was lost, being overtaken and slain by the enemy; all for want of care about a horseshoe nail.

Benjamin Franklin

Details

I should never have made my success in my life if I had not bestowed upon the least thing I have ever undertaken, the same attention and care that I have bestowed upon the greatest.

Charles Dickens

Details

It does not matter if the greatest thing for you to do be not in itself great. The best preparation for greatness comes in doing faithfully the little things that lie nearest. The nearest is the greatest in most human lives.

D. S. Jordan

Determination

Everyone has his superstitions. One of mine has always been when I started to go anywhere, or to do anything, never to turn back or to stop until the thing intended was accomplished.

Ulysses S. Grant

Determination

I wish it, I command it. Let my will take the place of reason.

Decimus Junius Juvenal

Satires, VI, 223

Determination

It is no use saying "We are doing ouir best." You have got to succeed in doing what is necessary.

Winston Churchill

Determination

Never give in, Never give in, Never give in, Never, Never, Never, Never.

Winston Churchill

Determination

The good or ill of man lies within his own will.

Epictetus

Discourses, I, 25

Determination

The race is not always to the swift, but to those who keep on running.

Author Unknown

Determination

What though strength fails? Boldness is certain to win praise. In mighty enterprises, it is enough to have had the determination.

Sextus Aurelius Propertius

Elegies, II, x, 5

Determination

Winners never quit. And quitters never win.

Author Unknown

Determination

Winning isn't everything, but the will to win is.

Vince Lombardi

Devil

'Tis an easier matter to raise the devil than to lay him.

Desiderius Erasmus (1465-1536)

Adagia (1500)

Devil

An apology for the devil: it must be remembered that we have heard only one side of the case. God has written all the books.

Samuel Butler

Devil

If the devil doesn't exist, but man created him, he has created him in his own image.

Fyodor Dostoyevski (1821-1881)

The Brothers Karamazov (1880)

Devil

May you get to Heaven a half hour before the Devil knows you're dead.

Irish Proverb

Devil

Roper: So now you'd give the Devil benefit of law!

[Sir Thomas] More: Yes. What would you do? Cut a great road through the law to get after the Devil?…….Yes, I'd give the Devil benefit of law, for my own safety's sake.

Robert Bolt, A Man for All Seasons, act I, p. 39 (1967).

Devil

Satan hasn't a single salaried helper; the Opposition employs a million.

Mark Twain

Devil

Talk of the devil, and his horns appear.

Samuel Taylor Coleridge

Devil

The Christians were the first to make the existence of Satan a dogma of the church.

Madame Elena Blavatsky

Devil

The devil can cite scripture for his purpose.

William Shakespeare

Devil

The Devil does not stay where music is.

Martin Luther

Devil

The devil hath power to assume a pleasing shape.

William Shakespeare

Devil

The fiend with all his comrades

Fell then from heaven above,

Through as long as three nights and days,

The angels form heaven into hell;

And them all the Lord transformed to devils,

Because they his deed and word

Would not revere.

Caedmon

Creation. The Fall of the Rebel Angels

Devil

The serpent subtlest beast of all the field.

John Milton

Paradise Lost, IX, 86

Devil

The world is all the richer for having the devil in it, so long as we keep our foot upon his neck.

William James

Devil

When there is question of saving souls, or preventing greater harm to souls, We feel the courage to treat with the devil in person.

Pope Pius XI, speech to the students of the Mondragone college, May 14, 1929. Unverified but recounted in Robert A. Graham, Vatican Diplomacy, p. 351 (1959).

Dictators

I will believe in the right of one man to govern a nation despotically when I find a man born into the world with boots and spurs, and a nation with saddles on their backs.

Algernon Sidney

Dictators

They (The Marxists) say that such a yoke, the dictatorship of the state, is the inevitable but transitional remedy for achieving the maximum liberation of the people…. We answer that any dictatorship can have only one aim: self-perpetuation.

Mikhail A. Bakunin

Gesammelte Werke, Golos trude edition, I, p.255.

Differences

So, let us not be blind to our differences—but let us also direct attention to our common interests and to the means by which those differences can be resolved. And if we cannot end now our differences, at least we can help make the world safe for diversity.

President John F. Kennedy, commencement address at The American University, Washington, D.C., June 10, 1963.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: John F Kennedy, 1963, p. 462.

Differences

What is food to one, is to others bitter poison.

Lucretius [Titus Lucretius Carus]

De Rerum Natura, IV, 637

Difficulties

Difficulties constitute the best education in this life.

Benjamin Disraeli

Difficulties

Difficulties elicit talents that in more fortunate circumstances would lie dormant.

Horace

Difficulties

Difficulties show men what they are. In case of any difficulty, God has pitted you against a rough antagonist that you may be a conqueror, and this cannot be without toil.

Epictetus

Dignity

The images of the most illustrious families…were carried before it [the bier of Julia]. Those of Brutus and Cassius were not displayed; but for that reason they shone with preeminent luster.

Caius Cornelius Tacitus

Annals, III, 76

Dignity

The Roman world is falling, yet we hold our heads erect instead of bowing our necks.

St. Jerome

Letter 60

Dignity

There is a healthful hardiness about real dignity that never dreads contact and communion with others, however humble.

Washington Irving

Dignity

Where is there dignity unless there is honesty?

Marcus Tullius Cicero

Diplomacy

A Foreign Secretary—and this applies also to a prospective Foreign Secretary—is always faced with this cruel dilemma. Nothing he can say can do very much good, and almost anything he may say may do a great deal of harm. Anything he says that is not obvious is dangerous; whatever is not trite is risky. He is forever poised between the cliche and the indiscretion.

Harold Macmillan, secretary of state for foreign affairs, remarks in the House of Commons, July 27, 1955.—Parliamentary Debates (Hansard), House of Commons Official Report, vol. 544, col. 1301.

Diplomacy

Close alliances with despots are never safe for free states.

Demosthenes

Diplomacy

DIPLOMACY, n. The patriotic art of lying for one's country.

Ambrose Bierce, The Devil's Dictionary, p. 72 (1948). Originally published in 1906 as The Cynic's Word Book.

Diplomacy

Diplomacy—the patriotic art of lying for one's country.

Ambrose Bierce

Diplomacy

He is wise who tries everything before arms.

Terence [Publius Terentius Afer]

Eunuchus, 789

Diplomacy

I have discovered the art of fooling diplomats: I speak the truth and they never believe me.

Camillo di Cavour

Diplomacy

In international politics, the union of two thieves who have their hands so deeply inserted in each other's pocket that they cannot separately plunder a third.

Ambrose Bierce

Diplomacy

In politics, as in high finance, duplicity is regarded as a virtue.

Mikhail A. Bakunin

Diplomacy

It is our policy to steer clear of permanent alliances with any portion of the foreign world.

George Washington

Diplomacy

No one, not even the most malevolent democrat has any idea how much nullity and charlatanism there is in diplomacy.

Otto von Bismarck-Schoenhausen

Diplomacy

Peace, commerce and honest friendship with other nations—entangling alliances with none.

Thomas Jefferson

Diplomacy

These, then, are the qualities of my ideal diplomatist. Truth, accuracy, calm, patience, good temper, modesty and loyalty. They are also the qualities of an ideal diplomacy.

"But," the reader may object, "you have forgotten intelligence, knowledge, discernment, prudence, hospitality, charm, industry, courage and even tact." I have not forgotten them. I have taken them for granted.

Harold Nicolson, Diplomacy, chapter 3, p. 126 (1939).

Disagreement

Disagreement is the life blow of democracy, dissension is its cancer.

Life

Discipline

Love is a boy by poets styl'd;

Then spare the rod, and spoil the child.

Samuel Butler

Hudibras, II, I, 843

Discipline

No horse ever gets anywhere until he is harnessed. No steam or gas ever drives anything until it is confined. No Niagara is ever turned into light and power until it is tunneled. No life ever grows great until it is focused, dedicated disciplined.

Harry Emerson Fosdick

Discipline

Soft-hearted mothers rear soft-hearted children. They hurt them for life because they are afraid of hurting them while they are young. Coddle our children; and they will turn out noodles. You may sugar a child till every body is sick of it. Boys' jackets need a little dusting every now and then; and girls' dresses are all the better for an occasional trimming. Children without chastisement are fields without plowing. The very best colts want breaking in. Not that we like severity. Cruel mothers are not mothers; and those who are always flogging and fault-finding ought to be flogged themselves. There is reason in all things; as the madman said when he cut off his nose.

Charles H. Spurgeon

Discontent

Discontent is the want of self reliance; it is the infirmity of the will.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Discouragement

A man can get discouraged many times but he is not a failure until he begins to blame somebody else and stops trying.

Author Unknown

Discouragement

When we are discouraged we use our reason to support our fears and our prejudices. We have some unwholesome doubts; and doubt is the first step on the road to betrayal and surrender.

George Bernard Shaw

Discovery

Things don't turn up in this world until somebody turns them up.

Garfield

Discretion

Be not swept off your feet by the vividness of the impression, but say, "Impression, wait for me a little. Let me see what you are and what you represent. Let me try you."

Epictetus

Discourses, II, 18

Discretion

Better shun the bait than struggle in the snare.

John Dryden

Discussion

Men are never so likely to settle a question rightly as when they discuss it freely.

Thomas Babington Macaulay

Dishonesty

Rats know the way of rats.

Mencius

Disposition

A good disposition is more valuable than gold, for the latter is the gift of fortune, but the former is the dower of nature.

Joseph Addison

Dissent

Freedom of speech is useless without freedom of thought. And I fear that the politics of protest is shutting out the process of thought, so necessary to rational discussion. We are faced with the Ten Commandments of Protest:

Thou Shalt Not Allow Thy Opponent to Speak.

Thou Shalt Not Set Forth a Program of Thine Own.

Thou Shalt Not Trust Anybody Over Thirty.

Thou Shalt Not Honor Thy Father or Thy Mother.

Thou Shalt Not Heed the Lessons of History.

Thou Shalt Not Write Anything Longer than a Slogan.

Thou Shalt Not Present a Negotiable Demand.

Thou Shalt Not Accept Any Establishment Idea.

Thou Shalt Not Revere Any but Totalitarian Heroes.

Thou Shalt Not Ask Forgiveness for Thy Transgressions, Rather Thou Shalt Demand Amnesty for Them.

Vice President Spiro T. Agnew, Speech to governors and their families, Washington, D.C., December 3, 1969.—Collected Speeches of Spiro Agnew, pp. 98-99 (1971).

Dissent

If there is no struggle there is no progress. Those who profess to favor freedom and yet depreciate agitation, are men who want crops without plowing up the ground, they want rain without thunder and lightning. They want the ocean without the awful roar of its many waters. This struggle may be a moral one, or it may be a physical one, and it may be both moral and physical, but it must be a struggle. Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and it never will.

Frederick Douglass, "West India Emancipation," speech delivered at Canandaigua, New York, August 4, 1857.—The Life and Writings of Frederick Douglass, ed. Philip S. Foner, vol. 2, p. 437 (1950).

Dissent

There are a lot of bleeding hearts around who just don't like to see people with helmets and guns. All I can say is go and bleed….It is more important to keep law and order in society than to be worried about weak-kneed people….Society must take every means at its disposal to defend itself against the emergence of a parallel power which defies the elected power.

Pierre Elliott Trudeau, prime minister of Canada, impromptu exchange with reporters, criticizing those who questioned his decision to use soldiers to protect federal officials and diplomats in Ottawa, October 13, 1970.—Time, October 26, 1970, p. 33.

On October 16 Trudeau invoked the 1914 War Measures Act, for the first time in peacetime, to deal with separatist terrorists who had kidnapped two high-ranking officials.

Dissent

There are only two choices: A police state in which all dissent is suppressed or rigidly controlled; or a society where law is responsive to human needs. If society is to be responsive to human needs, a vast restructuring of our laws is essential.

Realization of this need means adults must awaken to the urgency of the young people's unrest—in other words there must be created an adult unrest against the inequities and injustices in the present system. If the government is in jeopardy, it is not because we are unable to cope with revolutionary situations. Jeopardy means that either the leaders or the people do not realize they have all the tools required to make the revolution come true. The tools and the opportunity exist. Only the moral imagination is missing.

Justice William O. Douglas, Points of Rebellion, pp. 92-93 (1970).

Dissent

We see political leaders replacing moral imperatives with a Southern strategy. We have seen all too clearly that there are men—now in power in this country—who do not respect dissent, who cannot cope with turmoil, and who believe that the people of America are ready to support repression as long as it is done with a quiet voice and a business suit. And it is up to us to prove that they are wrong.

John V. Lindsay, mayor of New York City, Speech at University of California, Berkeley, April 2, 1970, as reported by The Washington Post, April 3, 1970, p. 3.

Doctors

And when the physician said, "Sir, you are an old man," "That happens," replied Pausania, "because you never were my doctor."

Plutarch

Doctors

If it were an art to overcome heresy with fire, the executioners would be the most learned doctors on earth.

Martin Luther

To the Christian Nobility of the German States

Doctors

No doctor is a good doctor who has never been ill himself.

Confucius

Doctors

No physician, in so far as he is a physician, considers his own good in what he prescribes, but the good of his patient; for the true physician is also a ruler having the human body as his subject, and is not a mere money-maker.

Plato

The Republic

Doctors

There are more old drunkards than old doctors.

Benjamin Franklin

Poor Richard's Almanac

Doctors

Who shall decide when doctors disagree?

Alexander Pope

Moral Essays

Dogs

Gentlemen of the jury, the best friend a man has in this world may turn against him and become his enemy. His son or daughter whom he has reared with loving care may prove ungrateful. Those who are nearest and dearest to us—those whom we trust with our happiness and our good name—may become traitors to their faith. The money that a man has he may lose. It flies away from him, perhaps when he needs it most. A man's reputation may be sacrificed in a moment of ill-considered action. The people who are prone to fall on their knees to do us honor when success is with us may be the first to throw the stone of malice when failure settles its cloud upon our heads. The one absolute, unselfish friend that man can have in this selfish world—the one that never deserts him, the one that never proves ungrateful or treacherous—is his dog.

Gentlemen of the jury, a man's dog stands by him in prosperity and in poverty, in health and in sickness. He will sleep on the cold ground, where the wintry winds blow and the snow drives fiercely, if only he can be near his master's side. He will kiss the hand that had no food to offer, he will lick the wounds and sores that come in encounter with the roughness of the world. He guards the sleep of his pauper master as if he were a prince. When all other friends desert, he remains. When riches take wings and reputation falls to pieces he is as constant in his love as the sun in its journey through the heavens. If fortune drives the master forth an outcast in the world, friendless and homeless, the faithful dog asks no higher privilege than that of accompanying him to guard against danger, to fight against his enemies. And when the last scene of all comes, and death takes the master in its embrace, and his body is laid away in the cold ground, no matter if all other friends pursue their way, there by his graveside will the noble dog be found, his head between his paws, his eyes sad but open in alert watchfulness, faithful and true even to death.

George Graham Vest, "Eulogy on the Dog," speech during lawsuit, 1870.—Congressional Record, October 16, 1914, vol. 51, Appendix, pp. 1235-36.A foxhound named Drum "was known far and near as one of the fastest and least uncertain of hunting dogs." He was shot and his owner sued for damages, $150 being the maximum allowed. The case started before a Justice of the Peace, was appealed to another court and transferred to another. It was in the final trial, in the State Circuit Court at Warrensburg, Missouri, that Vest made his speech, the peroration of which is above.

According to the recollection of Thomas T. Crittenden, counsel for the defendant and later governor of Missouri, Vest made no reference to the evidence but confined himself to a tribute to canine affection and fidelity. "He seemed to recall from history all the instances where dogs had displayed intelligence and fidelity to man. He quoted more lines of history and poetry about them than I had supposed had been written….It was as perfect a piece of oratory as ever was heard from pulpit or bar. Court, jury, lawyers, and audience were entranced. I looked at the jury and saw all were in tears."—Gustav Kobbe, A Tribute to the Dog, pp. 9-18 (1911).According to John F. Phillips, former law partner of Vest and a member of the House of Representatives, whose comments appear in the Congressional Record with the eulogy on the dog, the jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff for $500, far more than the sum sued for. The excess was remitted. Vest was elected to the Senate eight years later and served 1879-1904.

Dogs

Mine enemy's dog,

Though he had bit me,

should have stood that night

Against my fire.

William Shakespeare

King Lear, IV, vii, 36

Doing

But ye, brethren, be not weary in well doing. And if any man obey not our word by this epistle, note that man, and have no company with him, that he may be ashamed.

The Bible, II Thessalonians 3:13-14.

Doing

Do all the good you can,

By all the means you can,

In all the ways you can,

In all the places you can,

At all the times you can,

To all the people you can,

As long as ever you can.

John Wesley, "Rule of Conduct," Letters of John Wesley, ed. George Eayrs, p. 423, footnote (1915).

Doing

Doing good

It is better to light one candle than curse the darkness.

Christopher Society, motto, the sentiment of which is an old Chinese proverb.—Bergen Evans, Dictionary of Quotations, p. 87, no. 7 (1968)."I have lost more than a beloved friend. I have lost an inspiration. She would rather light a candle than curse the darkness, and her glow has warmed the world."—Adlai E. Stevenson, U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, tribute to Eleanor Roosevelt after her death on November 7, 1962, as reported by The New York Times, November 8, 1962, p. 34.

Doing

It is some time since so few have been asked to do so much for so many on so little.

Elfan B. Rees, "The Refugee and the United Nations," International Conciliation, June 1953, p. 281.Dr. Rees, secretary of the United Nations Commission of the Churches on International Affairs, was speaking of the U.N. budget designated to assist World War II refugees.

Doing

Through this toilsome world, alas!

Once and only once I pass;

If a kindness I may show,

If a good deed I may do

To a suffering fellow man,

Let me do it while I can.

No delay, for it is plain

I shall not pass this way again.

Author unknown, "I Shall Not Pass This Way Again."—The Best Loved Poems of the American People, ed. Hazel Felleman, p. 77 (1936).

Doing

[Only by] the good influence of our conduct may we bring salvation in human affairs; or like a fatal comet we may bring destruction in our train.

Attributed to Desiderius Erasmus by Senator J. William Fulbright, "In Need of a Consensus," Penrose Memorial Lecture, delivered to the American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, April 20, 1961.—Proceedings of the Society, August 1961, p. 352. Unverified.

Doom

All hope abandon, ye who enter here!

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy. Inferno, canto III, 9

Doom

Day of wrath and doom impending, David's word with Sibyl's blending, Heaven and earth in ashes ending!

Tommaso Di Celano

Dies Irae

Doom

Who like the hindmost chariot wheels are curst,

Still to be near, but ne'er to reach the first.

Persius

Satires

Doomsday

Due to the lack of experienced trumpeters, the end of the world has been postponed for three weeks.

Author unknown. Handmade cardboard Sign hung in the United States Capitol, House Rules Committee chambers, c. 1970. Photocopies of this sentence have appeared on the walls of other work areas in the Capitol.

Doomsday

The world must be coming to an end. Children no longer obey their parents and every man wants to write a book.

Attributed to the writing on a tablet,

unearthed not far from Babylon and dated

back to 2800 B.C.

—Leewin B. Williams,

Encyclopedia of Wit, Humor and Wisdom,

p. 299 (1949).

An expanded version of this appears as,

"Our earth is degenerate in these latter days;

there are signs that the world is speedily

coming to an end; bribery and corruption are common;

children no longer obey their parents; every man

wants to write a book and the end of the world is

evidently approaching," attributed to an Assyrian

stone tablet of about 2800 B.C.

—William L. Patty and Louise S. Johnson,

Personality and Adjustment, p. 277 (1953).

Both of the above quotations would seem to be spurious.

Perhaps "every man wants to write a book" may be

related to "of making many books there is no end,"

Ecclesiastes 12:12.

Doomsday

Turning and turning in the widening gyre

The falcon cannot hear the falconer;

Things fall apart; the centre cannot hold;

Mere anarchy is loosed upon the world,

The blood-dimmed tide is loosed, and everywhere

The ceremony of innocence is drowned;

The best lack all conviction, while the worst

Are full of passionate intensity.

William Butler Yeats, "The Second Coming," lines 1-8, The Variorum Edition of the Poems of W B. Yeats, ed. Peter Allt and Russell H. Alspach, pp. 401-2 (1957).

Doubt

Modest doubt is call'd

The beacon of the wise, the tent that searches

To the bottom of the worst.

William Shakespeare

Troilus and Cressida, II, ii, 15

Doubt

Doubt begins only at the last frontiers of what is possible.

Giovanni Jacopo Casanova de Seingalt

Memoires, Paris, 1885.

Doubt

Doubt is not a pleasant mental state but certainty is a ridiculous one.

Voltaire

Doubt

Doubts are more cruel than the worst of truths.

Molière [Jean Baptiste Poquelin]

Le Misanthrope, III, 7

Doubt

If you would be a real seeker after truth, it is necessary that at least once in your life you doubt, as far as possible, all things.

René Descartes

Doubt

They reckon ill who leave me out;

When me they fly, I am the wings;

I am the doubter and the doubt,

And I the hymn the Brahmin sings.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

"Brahma" (1857)

Doubt

Who knows most, doubts most.

Robert Browning

Doubt

A wise skepticism is the first attribute of a good critic.

James Russell Lowell

Doubt

Doubt obscures the true vision of the heart.

Author Unknown

Doubt

If at you first you doubt, doubt again

William Bennett

Dreams

A dream, too, is from Zeus.

Homer

The Iliad, I, 63

Dreams

And he: "Follow your star, for if in all

of the sweet life I saw one truth shine clearly,

you cannot miss your glorious arrival."

Dante (or Durante) Alighieri (1265-1321)

The Divine Comedy (C. 1307-1320): The Inferno (Tr. Ciardi Canto XV)

Dreams

Dreams are the touchstones of our characters.

Henry David Thoreau

Dreams

Dreams surely are difficult, confusing, and not everything in them is brought to pass for mankind.

Homer

Dreams

Dreams surely are difficult, confusing, and not everything in them is brought to pass for mankind. For fleeting dreams have two gates: one is fashioned of horn and one of ivory. Those which pass through the one of sawn ivory are deceptive, bringing tidings which come to nought, but those which issue from the one of polished horn bring true results when a mortal sees them.

Homer

The Odyssey, XIX, 560

Dreams

For fleeting dreams have two gates: one is fashioned of horns and one of ivory. Those which pass through the one of sawn ivory are deceptive, bringing tidings which come to nought, but those which issue from the one of polished horn bring true results when a mortal sees them.

Homer

Dreams

I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: "We hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal."….I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character. I have a dream today.

Martin Luther King, Jr., "I Have a Dream," speech at the Lincoln Memorial, Washington, D.C., August 28, 1963.—Congressional Record, April 18, 1968, vol. 114, p.9165.This speech culminated a march on Washington for jobs and freedom.

Dreams

I have learned this at least by my experiment: that if one advances confidently in the direction of his dreams, and endeavors to live the life which he has imagined, he will meet with a success unexpected in common hours.

Henry David Thoreau

Dreams

I like the dreams of the future better than the history of the past.

Thomas Jefferson

Dreams

If you can imagine it,

You can achieve it,

If you can dream it,

You can become it.

Author Unknown

Dreams

If you have built castles in the air, your work need not be lost; that is where they should be. Now put the foundations under them.

Henry David Thoreau, Walden, chapter 18, p. 427 (1966). Originally published in 1854.

Dreams

In the middle of the journey of our life I came to myself within a dark wood where the straight way was lost.

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy. Inferno, canto I, 1

Dreams

Like dreams, small creeks grow into mighty rivers.

Author Unknown

Dreams

Perhaps you have heard the story of Christopher Wren, one of the greatest of English architects, who walked one day unrecognized among the men who were at work upon the building of St. Paul's cathedral in London which he had designed. "What are you doing?" he inquired of one of the workmen, and the man replied, "I am cutting a piece of stone." As he went on he put the same question to another man, and the man replied, "I am earning five shillings twopence a day." And to a third man he addressed the same inquiry and the man answered, "I am helping Sir Christopher Wren build a beautiful cathedral." That man had vision. He could see beyond the cutting of the stone, beyond the earning of his daily wage, to the creation of a work of art—the building of a great cathedral. And in your life it is important for you to strive to attain a vision of the larger whole.

Attributed to Louise Bush-Brown, director of the Pennsylvania School of Horticulture for Women. Unverified.

Dreams

So I awoke, and behold it was a dream.

John Bunyan

Pilgrim's Progress, 1

Dreams

The dreamer dies, but never dies the dream,

Though Death shall call the whirlwind to his aid,

Enlist men's passions, trick their hearts with hate,

Still shall the Vision live! Say nevermore

That dreams are fragile things. What else endures

Of all this broken world save only dreams!

Dana Burnet, "Who Dreams Shall Live," lines 11-16, Poems, p. 209 (1915).

Dreams

The republic is a dream

Nothing happens unless first a dream.

Carl Sandburg,

"Washington Monument by Night," stanza 4, The Complete Poems of Carl Sandburg, rev. and expanded ed., p. 282 (1970).

President Ronald Reagan quoted this before a joint Session of Congress, April 28, 1981, and added: "As Carl Sandburg said, all we need to begin with is a dream that we can do better than before. All we need to have is faith, and that dream will come true. All we need to do is act, and the time for action is now."—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Ronald Reagan, 1981, p. 394.

Dreams

The young are slaves to dreams; the old servants of regrets.

Hervey Allen

Dreams

The younger generation, people from Mexico, people from Vietnam—the road has been paved for anyone who has a dream.

Rosemary Ruiz

Dreams

There are those, I know, who will reply that the liberation of humanity, the freedom of man and mind, is nothing but a dream. They are right. It is. It is the American Dream.

Archibald Macleish, "We Have Purpose….We All know It," Life, May 30, 1960, p. 93.This was one of a series of essays in Life magazine and The New York Times on "The National Purpose."

Dreams

They are not long, the days of wine and roses:

Out of a misty dream

Our path emerges for a while, then closes

Within a dream.

Ernest Dowson, "They are not long, the weeping and the laughter," stanza 2, The Poems and Prose of Ernest Dowson, p. 22 (1919).

Dreams

Those who dream by day are cognizant of many things which escape those who dream only by night.

Edgar Allan Poe

Dreams

Thus she spoke; and I longed to embrace my dead mother's ghost. Thrice I tried to clasp her image, and thrice it slipped through my hands, like a shadow, like a dream.

Homer

The Odyssey, Xi, 204

Dreams

To dream the impossible dream,

To fight the unbeatable foe,

To bear with unbearable sorrow,

To run where the brave dare not go.

To right the unrightable wrong,

To love pure and chaste from afar,

To try when your arms are too weary,

To reach the unreachable star!

Joe Darion (lyrics) and Mitch Leigh (music),

"The Impossible Dream (The Quest),"

stanzas 1 and 2, Man of La Mancha (1965),

O Helena Music Corp./Andrew Scott, Inc.

Dreams

What happens to a dream deferred?

Does it dry up

like a raisin in the sun?

Or fester like a sore—

And then run?

Does it stink like rotten meat?

Or crust and sugar over—

like a syrupy Sweet?

Maybe it just sags

like a heavy lead.

Or does it explode?

Langston Hughes, "Harlem," Selected Poems of Langston Hughes, p. 268 (1959).

Dreams

You see things and say why? But I dream of things that never were and say why not?

George Bernard Shaw

Dreams

You see things; and you say "Why?" But I dream things that never were; and I say "Why not?"

George Bernard Shaw, Back to Methuselah, act I, Selected Plays with Prefaces, vol. 2, p. 7 (1949). The serpent says these words to Eve. President John F. Kennedy quoted these words in his address to the Irish Parliament, Dublin, June 28, 1963.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: John F. Kennedy, 1963, p. 537.

Senator Robert F. Kennedy used a similar quotation as a theme of his 1968 campaign for the presidential nomination: "Some men see things as they are and say, why; I dream things that never were and say, why not." Senator Edward M. Kennedy quoted these words of Robert Kennedy's in his eulogy for his brother in 1968.—The New York Times, June 9, 1968, p. 56.

Dress

We act the way we dress. Neglected and untidy clothes reflect a neglected and untidy mind.

Author Unknown

Drinking

"Give me a drink! I will give you my hard earnings for it. Give me a drink! I will pay for it. I will give you more than that. I married a wife; I took her from her girlhood's home, and promised to love and cherish her, and protect her. AH! AH! And I have driven her out to work for me, and I have stolen her wages, and I have brought them to you. Give me a drink and I will give you them. More yet. I have snatched the bit of bread from the white lips of my famished child. I will give you that if you will give me a drink. More yet. I will give—I will give you my hopes of heaven—body and soul. I will barter the jewels worth all the kingdoms of the earth—for what will a man give in exchange for his soul?—for a dram. Give it me!"

J. B. Gough

Drinking

All excess is ill, but drunkenness is of the worst sort. It spoils health, dismounts the mind, and unmans men. It reveals secrets, is quarrelsome, lascivious, impudent, dangerous and bad.

William Penn

Drinking

Thanks be to God, since my leaving drinking of wine, I do find myself much better, and do mind my business better, and do spend less money, and less time lost in idle company.

Samuel Pepys

Drinking

Water is the only drink for a wise man.

Henry David Thoreau

Drinking

We were to do more business after dinner; but after dinner is after dinner—an old saying and a true, "much drinking, little thinking."

Jonathan Swift

Drinking

Whose red nose makes me ashamed to be seen with him.

Samuel Pepys

Drugs

Thou has the keys of Paradise, O just, subtle, and mighty Opium!

Thomas de Quincey (1785-1859)

Confessions of an English Opium Eater (1856)

Duty

A sense of duty pursues us ever. It is omnipresent, like the Deity. If we take to ourselves the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of these, duty performed or duty violated is still with us, for our happiness or our misery. If we say the darkness shall cover us, in the darkness as in the light our obligations are yet with us.

Daniel Webster

Duty

Better one's own duty, [though] imperfect.

Than another's duty well performed.

Bhagavad Gita

Gita 3, 35 and 18, 47

Duty

Do your duty and leave the rest to the gods.

Pierre Corneille (1606-1684)

Horace (1640)

Duty

Duty makes us do things well, but love makes us do them beautifully.

Phillips Brooks

Duty

Duty, then is the sublimest word in our language. Do your duty in all things . You cannot do more, you should never wish to do less.

Attributed to Robert E. Lee, in a letter to his son, G. W. Custis Lee, dated April 5, 1852, and published in the New York Sun, November 26, 1864, p. 2.Although accepted as authentic by many nineteenth century writers, and used for the inscription under Lee's bust in New York University's Hall of Fame in 1901, repudiation of its authenticity began shortly after its publication, beginning with articles in two Richmond, Virginia, newspapers. The most complete summary of evidence indicating the letter was spurious may be found in Charles Alfred Graves, The Forged Letter of General Robert E. Lee (1914) and its Supplementary Paper (1915).

Duty

Each man must learn his duty fast. Each has his responsibility and is answerable for what he does.

Henry D. Moyle

Duty

Let no guilty man escape if it can be avoided. Be specially vigilant—or instruct those engaged in the prosecution of fraud to be—against all who insinuate that they have high influence to protect—or to protect them. No personal consideration should stand in the way of performing a public duty.

President Ulysses S. Grant, endorsement added to letter received July 29, 1875.The exposure of the Whisky Ring, a secret association of distillers and federal officials defrauding the government, was a major scandal in 1875. W. D. W Barnard, a St. Louis banker, wrote to Grant that officials in St. Louis claimed Grant would sustain them to protect Orville Babcock, his private secretary. Grant added the above endorsement and referred the letter to Benjamin H. Bristow, Secretary of the treasury, who led the efforts to expose the ring.—Louis A. Coolidge, Ulysses S. Grant, p. 479 (1922). Also see John A. Carpenter, Ulysses S. Grant, p. 150 and p. 196, note 5 (1970).

Duty

Majesty: when a stupid man is doing something he is ashamed of, he always declares that it is his duty.

George Bernard Shaw, Caesar and Cleopatra, act III, in Selected Plays with Prefaces, vol. 3, p. 418 (1948). Apollodorus is speaking to Cleopatra.

Duty

Our grand business is not to see what lies dimly at a distance; but to do what lies closely at hand. Do the duty which lieth nearest to thee; which thou knowest to be a duty. Thy second duty will already become clearer.

Thomas Carlyle

Duty

Sufficient to today are the duties of today. Don't waste life in doubts and fears; spend yourself on the work before you; well assured that the right performance of this hour's duties will be the best preparation for the hours or ages that follow it.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Duty

The consideration that human happiness and moral duty are inseparably connected will always continue to prompt me to promote the progress of the former by inculcating the practice of the latter.

George Washington

Duty

The duties of universal obligation are five, and the virtues wherewith they are practised are three. The duties are those between sovereign and minister, between father and son, between husband and wife, between elder brother and younger, and those belonging to the intercourse of friends. Those five are the duties of universal obligation. Knowledge, magnanimity, and energy, these three, are the virtues universally binding. And the means by which they carry the duties into practice—is singleness.

Confucius (551-479 B.C.)

The Doctrine of Mean (tr. Legge), Ch. XX, 8

Duty

The everyday cares and duties, which men call drudgery, are the weights and counterpoises of the clock of time, giving its pendulum a true vibration, and its hands a regular motion; and when they cease to hang upon the wheels, the pendulum no longer swings, the hands no longer move, and the clock stands still.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Duty

The lark is up to meet the Sun,

The bee is on the wing;

The ant its labor has begun,

The woods with music ring.

Shall birds, and bees, and ants, be wise,

While I my moments waste?

O let me with the morning rise,

And to my duty haste.

William Holmes Mcguffey,

"The lark is up to meet the sun," McGuffey's Eclectic Primer newly rev., lesson 81, p. 54 (1849).

Duty

The path of duty lies in what is near, and man seeks for it in what is remote.

Mencius

Book IV, 1:11

Duty

There is no duty we so much underrate as the duty of being happy.

Robert Louis Stevenson, "An Apology for Idlers," Virginibus Puerisque and Later Essays, p. 88 (1969). Written between 1874-1879.

Duty

We all know our duty better than we discharge it.

John Randolph of Roanoke.—William Cabell Bruce, John Randolph of Roanoke, 1773-1833, vol. 2, chapter 7, p. 205 (1922, reprinted 1970). Randolph was a member of Congress 1799-1813, 1815-1817, and 1819-1829.

Duty

We live in an age disturbed, confused, bewildered, afraid of its own forces, in search not merely of its road but even of its direction. There are many voices of counsel, but few voices of vision; there is much excitement and feverish activity, but little concert of thoughtful purpose. We are distressed by our own ungoverned, undirected energies and do many things, but nothing long. It is our duty to find ourselves.

Woodrow Wilson, president of Princeton, baccalaureate address, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey, June 9, 1907.—The Papers of Woodrow Wilson, ed. Arthur S. Link, vol. 17, p. 194.

Duty

When occasions present themselves, in which the interests of the people are at variance with their inclinations, it is the duty of the persons whom they have appointed to be the guardians of those interests, to withstand the temporary delusion, in order to give them time and opportunity for more cool and sedate reflection.

Alexander Hamilton, The Federalist, ed. Benjamin F. Wright, no. 71, p. 459 (1961).

Earth

What if earth

Be but the shadow of heaven, and things therein

Each to other like, more than on earth is thought?

John Milton

Paradise Lost, V, 574

Earth

Above the smoke and stir of this dim spot

Which men call earth.

John Milton

Comus, 5

Earth

E pur si muove!

But it does move!

Galileo Galilei (1564-1642)

Attributed To Galileo, In Reference To The Earth, After His Recantation

Earth

Earth has its boundaries but human stupidity is limitless.

Gustave Flaubert (1821-1880)

Letters

Earth

Heaven and Earth are not humane.

They regard all things as straw dogs.

Lao Tzu

The Way of Lao Tzu 5

Earth

I have very large ideas of the mineral wealth of our Nation. I believe it practically inexhaustible. It abounds all over the western country, from the Rocky Mountains to the Pacific, and its development has scarcely commenced…. Immigration, which even the war has not stopped, will land upon our shores hundred of thousands more per year from overcrowded Europe. I intend to point them to the gold and silver that waits for them in the West. Toll the miners from me, that I shall promote their interests to the utmost of my ability; because their prosperity is the prosperity of the Nation, and we shall prove in a very few years that we are indeed the treasury of the world.

President Abraham Lincoln, message for the miners of the West, delivered verbally to Speaker of the House Schuyler Colfax, who was about to depart on a trip to the West, in the afternoon of April 14, 1865, before Lincoln left for Ford's Theatre. Colfax delivered the message to a large crowd of citizens in Denver, Colorado, May 27, 1865.—Edward Winslow Martin, The Life and Public Services of Schuyler Colfax, pp. 187-88 (1868).

Earth

Indecency, vulgarity, obscenity—these are strictly confined to man; he invented them. Among the higher animals there is no trace of them. They hide nothing. They are not ashamed.

Samuel L. Clemens ("Mark Twain") (1835-1910)

Letters From the Earth (1905-09)

Earth

Infinite riches in a little room.

Christopher Marlowe

The Jew of Malta, act I, sc. 1

Earth

Man is without any doubt the most interesting fool there is. Also the most eccentric. He hasn't a single written law, in his Bible or out of it, which has any but one purpose and intention—to limit or defeat a law of God.

Samuel Langhorne Clemens ("Mark Twain") (1835-1910)

Letters From the Earth (1905-09)

Earth

The first time the Deity came down to earth, he brought life and death; when he came the second time, he brought hell.

Samuel Langhorne Clemens ("Mark Twain") (1835-1910)

Letters From the Earth (1905-09)

Earth

The human being, like the immortals, naturally places sexual intercourse far and away above all other joys—yet he has left it out of his heaven.

It [the Bible] is full of interest. I has noble poetry in it; and some clever fables; and some blood-drenched history; and some good morals; and a wealth of obscenity; and upwards of a thousand lies.

Samuel Langhorne Clemens ("Mark Twain") (1835-1910)

Letters From the Earth (1905-09)

Earth

The land was ours before we were the land's.

She was our land more than a hundred years

Before we were her people. She was ours

In Massachusetts, in Virginia,

But we were England's, still colonials,

Possessing what we still were unpossessed by,

Possessed by what we now no more possessed.

Something we were withholding made us weak

Until we found out that it was ourselves

We were withholding from our land of living,

And forthwith found salvation in surrender.

Such as we were we gave ourselves outright

(The deed of gift was many deeds of war)

To the land vaguely realizing westward,

But still unstoried, artless, unenhanced,

Such as she was, such as she would become.

Robert Frost, "The Gift Outright," The Poetry of Robert Frost, ed. Edward C. Lathem, p.348 (1967).

Frost read this poem at President John F. Innate's inauguration, January 20, 1961.

Earth

The materials of wealth are in the earth, in the seas, and in their natural and unaided productions.

Daniel Webster, remarks in the Senate, March 12, 1838.—The Writings and Speeches of Daniel Webster vol. 8, p. 177 (1903).

Earth

The stars about the lovely moon hide their shining forms when it lights up the earth at its fullest.

Sappho

Fragment 4

Earth

There has never been an intelligent person of the age of sixty who would consent to live his life over again. His or anyone else's.

Samuel Langhorne Clemens ("Mark Twain") (1835-1910)

Letters From the Earth (1905-09)

Earth

We travel together, passengers on a little space ship, dependent on its vulnerable reserves of air and soil; all committed for our safety to its security and peace; preserved from annihilation only by the care, the work, and, I will say, the love we give our fragile craft. We cannot maintain it half fortunate, half miserable, half confident, half despairing, half slave—to the ancient enemies of man—half free in a liberation of resources undreamed of until this day. No craft, no crew can travel safely with such vast contradictions. On their resolution depends the survival of us all.

Adlai E. Stevenson, U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, last major speech, to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, Geneva, Switzerland, July 9, 1965.—Adlai Stevenson of the United Nations, ed. Albert Roland, Richard Wilson, and Michael Rahill, p. 224 (1965).

Economy

At times like the present, when the evils of unsound finance threaten us, the speculator may anticipate a harvest gathered from the misfortune of others, the capitalist may protect himself by hoarding or may even find profit in the fluctuations of values; but the wage earner—the first to be injured by a depreciated currency and the last to receive the benefit of its correction is practically defenseless.

Grover Cleveland

Economy

Economy is a savings bank, into which men drop pennies, and get dollars in return.

Henry Wheeler Shaw

Economy

The first theory is that if we make the rich richer, somehow they will let a part of their prosperity tricKle down to the rest of us. The second theory…was the theory that if we make the average of mankind comfortable and secure, their prosperity will rise upward…through the ranks.

Franklin D. Roosevelt, governor of New York, campaign address, Detroit, Michigan, October 2, 1932.—The Public Papers and Addresses of Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1928-1932, p. 772 (1938).

Economy

The organization of labor and the strikes were an effect, merely, of the concentration of capital in greater masses than had ever been known before…. When a little capital or a new idea was enough to start a man in business for himself, workingmen were constantly becoming employers and there was no hard and fast line between the two classes. Labor unions were needless then, and general strikes out of the question. But when the era of small concerns with small capital was succeeded by that of the great aggregations of capital, all this was changed. The individual laborer, who had been relatively important to the small employer, was reduced to insignificance and powerlessness over against the great corporation, while at the same time the way upward to the grade of employer was closed to him. Self-defense drove him to union with his fellows.

Edward Bellamy

Looking Backward, 1887.

Economy

There can be no economy where there is no efficiency.

Benjamin Disraeli

Economy

There is more danger from monopolies than from combinations of workingmen. There is more danger that capital will swallow up the profits of labor, than that labor will confiscate capital.

George Bancroft

To the Workingmen of Northampton, Boston Courier, October 22, 1834.

Economy

Too often in recent history liberal governments have been wrecked on rocks of loose fiscal policy.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt, request to Congress to effect drastic economies in the government, March 10, 1933.—The Public Papers and Addresses of Franklin D.Roosevelt, 1933, p. 50 (1938).

Education

"Via ovicipitum dura est,' or, for the benefit of the engineers among you: "The way of the egghead is hard."

Adlai E. Stevenson, lecture at Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, March 17, 1954.—Stevenson, Call to Greatness, p. xi (1954).

Education

5. To accuse others for one's own misfortunes is a sign of want of education; to accuse oneself shows that one's education has begun; to accuse neither oneself nor others shows that one's education is complete.

Epictetus (c. 50-120 A.D.)

The Manual of Epictetus (The Encheiridion)

Education

A good, practical education; including a good trade; is a better outfit for a youth than a grand estate with the drawback of an empty mind. Many parents have slaved and pinched to leave their children rich; when half the sum thus lavished would have profited them far more had it been devoted to the cultivation of their minds; the enlargement of their capacity to think; observe and work. The one structure that no neighborhood can afford to do without is the schoolhouse.

Horace Greeley

Education

A human being is not attaining his full heights until he is educated.

Horace Mann

Education

A school should not be a preparation for life. A school should be life.

Elbert Hubbard

Education

All the value of education rests in respect for the physical, intellectual and moral will of the child.

Francisco Ferrer (1859-executed 1909)

The Modern School

Education

All who have meditated on the art of governing mankind have been convinced that the fate of empires depends on the education of youth.

Aristotle

Education

An education isn't how much you have committed to memory, or even how much you know. It's being able to differentiate between what you do know and what you don't. It's knowing where to go to find out what you need to know; and it's knowing how to use the information you get.

Attributed to William Feather.—August Kerber, Quotable Quotes on Education, p. 17 (1968). Unverified.

Education

But this is that which will indeed dignify and exalt knowledge, if contemplation and action may be more nearly and straitly conjoined and united together than they have been;…that knowledge may not be as a courtesan, for pleasure and vanity only, or as a bondwoman, to acquire and gain to her master's use, but as a spouse, for generation, fruit, and comfort.

Francis Bacon

Advancement of Learning.

Education

Educated men are as much superior to uneducated men as the living are to the dead.

Aristotle

Education

Education has for its object the formation of character. To curb restive propensities, to awaken dormant sentiments, to strengthen the perceptions, and cultivate the tastes, to encourage this feeling and repress that, so as finally to develop the child into a man of well proportioned and harmonious nature—this is alike the aim of parent and teacher.

Herbert Spencer,

Social Statics, part 2,

chapter 17, p. 180 (1851).

Education

Education is our only political safety.

Horace Mann

Education

Education is the best provision for old age.

Aristotle

Education

Education is the cheap defence of nations.

Attributed to Edmund Burke.—Charles Noel Douglas, comp., Forty Thousand Quotations, p. 573 (1921). Unverified.

Education

Education is the instruction of the intellect in the laws of Nature.

Thomas Henry Huxley

Education

Education makes a people easy to lead, but difficult to drive; easy to govern, but impossible to enslave.

Henry Peter, Lord Brougham

Education

Education, then, beyond all other devices of human origin, is the great equalizer of the conditions of men,—the balance-wheel of the social machinery.

Horace Mann, twelfth annual report to the Massachusetts State Board of Education, 1848.—Life and Works of Horace Mann, ed. Mrs. Mary Mann, vol. 3, p. 669 (1868). Mann served in Congress 1848-1853.

Education

Education: A debt due from present to future generations.

George Peabody

Education

Enlighten the people generally, and tyranny and oppressions of body and mind will vanish like evil spirits at the dawn of day.

Thomas Jefferson, letter to P. S. du Pont de Nemours, April 24, 1816.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Paul L. Ford, vol. 10, p. 25 (1899). This sentence is one of many quotations inscribed on Cox Corridor II, a first floor House corridor, U.S. Capitol.

Education

Every child must be encouraged to get as much education as he has the ability to take. We want this not only for his sake—but for the nation's sake. Nothing matters more to the future of our country: not military preparedness—for armed might is worthless if we lack the brain power to build a world of peace; not our productive economy—for we cannot

sustain growth without trained manpower; not our democratic system of government—for freedom is fragile if citizens are ignorant.

President Lyndon B. Johnson, special message to the Congress, "Toward Full Educational Opportunity," January 12, 1965.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Lyndon B. Johnson, 1965, book 1, p. 26.

Education

For the things we have to learn before we can do them, we learn by doing them.

Aristotle

Nicomachean Ethics, II, 1

Education

Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime.

Chinese proverb.—The International Thesaurus of Quotations, ed. Rhoda Thomas Tripp, p. 76, no. 3 (1970).

Education

Grasp the subject, the words will follow.

Cato

Education

Histories make men wise; poets, witty; the mathematics, subtile; natural philosphy, deep; moral, grave; logic and rhetoric, able to contend.

Francis Bacon

Essays, Of Studies

Education

I also desire to encourage and foster an appreciation of the advantages which implicitly believe will result from the union of the English-speaking peoples throughout the world and to encourage in the students from the United States of North America [,] who will benefit from the American Scholarships to be established for the reason above given at

the University of Oxford under this my will [,] an attachment to the country from which they have sprung but without I hope withdrawing them or their sympathies from the land of their adoption or birth.

Cecil J. Rhodes, The Last Will and Testament of Cecil John Rhodes, ed. W T. Stead, pp. 24-29 (1902). The will was dated July 1, 1899.

Education

I ask that you offer to the political arena, and to the critical problems of our society which are decided therein, the benefit of the talents which society has helped to develop in you. I ask you to decide, as Goethe put it, whether you will be an anvil—or a hammer. The question is whether you are to be a hammer—whether you are to give to the world in which you were reared and educated the broadest possible benefits of that education.

Senator John F. Kennedy, commencement address, Smith College, Northampton, Massachusetts, June 8, 1958.—Transcript, p. 2.The Home Book of Quotations, ed. Burton Stevenson, 9th ed., p. 84, no. 8 (1964) gives the quotation from Goethe as follows: "Thou must (in commanding and winning, or serving and losing, Suffering or triumphing) be either anvil or hammer," citing his play, Der Gross-Cophta, act II, though it has not been found there.

Education

I call a complete and generous education that which fits a man to perform justly, skillfully, and magnanimously all the offices, both private and public, of peace and war.

John Milton

Education

I consider it the best part of an education to have been born and brought up in the country.

Bronson Alcott

Education

I know no safe depository of the ultimate powers of the Society but the people themselves; and if we think them not enlightened enough to exercise their control with a wholesome discretion, the remedy is not to take it from them, but to inform their discretion by education. This is the true corrective of abuses of constitutional power.

Thomas Jefferson, letter to William Charles Jarvis, September 28, 1820.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Paul L. Ford, vol. 10, p. 161 (1899).

Education

I prefer the company of peasants because they have not been educated sufficiently to reason incorrectly.

Michel de Montaigne

Education

If a nation expects to be ignorant and free, in a state of civilization, it expects what never was and never will be. The functionaries of every government have propensities to command at will the liberty and property of their constituents. There is no safe deposit for these but with the people themselves; nor can they be safe with them without information. Where the press is free, and every man able to read, all is safe.

Thomas Jefferson, letter to Colonel Charles Yancey, January 6, 1816.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Paul L. Ford, vol. 10, p. 4 (1899).

Education

If I had learned education I would not have had time to learn anything else.

Cornelius Vanderbilt

Education

If you plan for a year, plant a seed. If for ten years, plant a tree. If for a hundred years, teach the people. When you sow a seed once, you will reap a single harvest. When you teach the people, you will reap a hundred harvests.

Kuan Chung, Kuan-tzu (Book of Master Kuan).—Kuan tzu chi p'ing, ed. Ling Juheng, vol. 1, p. 12 (1970). Title romanized.

Education

In point of substantial merit the law school belongs in the modern university no more than a school of fencing or dancing.

Thorstein Veblen, The Higher Learning in America, p. 211 (1918).

Education

In the conditions of modern life the rule is absolute, the race which does not value trained intelligence is doomed. Not all your heroism, not all your social charm, not all your wit, not all your victories on land or at sea, can move back the finger of fate. Today we maintain ourselves. Tomorrow science will have moved forward yet one more step, and there will be no appeal from the judgment which will then be pronounced on the uneducated.

Alfred North Whitehead, "The Aims of Education—a Plea for Reform," The Organization of Thought, chapter 1, p. 28 (1917, reprinted 1974).

Education

In the education of children there is nothing like alluring the interest and affection; otherwise you only make so many asses laden with books.

Michel de Montaigne

Education

It is only the ignorant who despise education.

Publilius Syrus

Education

It is this simplicity that makes the uneducated more effective than the educated when addressing popular audiences.

Aristotle

Rhetoric, II, 22

Education

It was in making education not only common to all, but in some sense compulsory on all, that the destiny of the free republics of America was practically settled.

James Russell Lowell

Education

Learned institutions ought to be favorite objects with every free people. They throw that light over the public mind which is the best security against crafty & dangerous encroachments on the public liberty.

James Madison, letter to W. T. Barry, August 4, 1822.—The Writings of James Madison, ed. Gaillard Hunt, vol. 9, p. 105 (1910).These words are inscribed in the Madison Memorial Hall, Library of Congress James Madison Memorial Building.

Education

Let early education be a sort of amusement; you will then be better able to find out the natural bent.

Plato

The Republic, VII, 537

Education

Litigious terms, fat contentions, and flowing fees.

John Milton

Tractate of Education

Education

Note too that a faithful study of the liberal arts humanizes character and permits it not to be cruel.

Ovid [Publius Ovidius Naso]

Ex Ponto, II, ix, 47

Education

Nothing in education is so astonishing as the amount of ignorance it accumulates in the form of inert facts.

Henry Adams

Education

On one occasion Aristotle was asked how much educated men were superior to those uneducated. "As much," said he, "as the living are to the dead."

Diogenes Laertius (fl. 200 A.D.)

Lives and Opinions of Eminent Philosophers, "Aristotle"

Education

Perhaps the most valuable result of all education is the ability to make yourself do the thing you have to do, when it ought to be done, whether you like it or not.

Thomas Henry Huxley

Education

The aim of a college education is to teach you to know a good man when you see one.

William James

Education

The benefits of education and of useful knowledge, generally diffused through a community, are essential to the preservation of a free government.

Attributed to Sam Houston by the University of Texas. This quotation appears on the verso of the title-page of all University of Texas publications. Unverified.

Education

The business of education is not to make the young perfect in any one of the sciences, but so to open and dispose their minds as may best make them capable of any, when they shall apply themselves to it.

John Locke

Education

The contact with manners then is education; and this Thucydides appears to assert when he says history is philosophy learned from examples.

Dionysius of Halicarnassus

Ars Rhetorica XI, 2

Education

The direction in which education starts a man will determine his future life.

Plato

Education

The education of a man is never completed until he dies.

Robert E. Lee

Education

The education of the will is the object of our existence.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Society and Solitude (1870)

Education

The fact we must remember is that we are educating students for a world that will not be ours but will be theirs. Give them a chance to be heard.

Dr. Carlos P. Romalo

Education

The great aim of education is not knowledge but action.

Author Unknown

Education

The great end of education is to discipline rather than to furnish the mind; to train it to the use of its own powers, rather than fill it with the accumulation of others.

Tyron Edwards

Education

The ink of the scholar is more sacred than the blood of the martyr.

Mohammed

Education

The Science of Government it is my duty to study, more than all other Sciences: the Art of Legislation and Administration and Negotiation, ought to take place, indeed to exclude in a manner all other Arts.—I must study politics and war that my sons may have liberty to study Mathematics and Philosophy. My sons ought to study Mathematics and Philosophy, Geography, natural History, Naval Architecture, navigation, Commerce and Agriculture, in order to give their Children a right to study Painting, Poetry, Musick, Architecture, Statuary, Tapestry and Porcelaine.

John Adams, letter to Abigail Adams, after May 12, 1780.—Adams Family Correspondence, ed. L. H. Butterfield, vol. 3, p. 342 (1973).

This letter has not been dated precisely, but appears to have been written after Adams's letter to his wife on May 12, and before one written to her on May 15.

Education

The soul takes nothing with her to the other world but her education and culture; and these, it is said, are of the greatest service or of the greatest injury to the dead man, at the very beginning of his journey thither.

Plato

Education

The supreme end of education is expert discernment in all things—the power to tell the good from the bad, the genuine from the counterfeit, and to prefer the good and the genuine to the bad and the counterfeit.

Samuel Johnson

Education

The things taught in colleges and schools are not an eduction, but the means of education.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Education

The very spring and root of honesty and virtue lie in good education.

Plutarch

Morals. Of the Training of Children

Education

The whole art of teaching is only the art of awakening the natural curiosity of young minds for the purpose of satisfying it afterwards; and curiosity itself can be vivid and wholesome only in proportion as the mind is contented and happy.

Anatole France, The Crime of Sylvestre Bonnard (vol. 1 of The Works of Anatole France), trans. Lafcadio Hearn, part 2, chapter 4, June 6, 1860, p. 198 (1924).

Education

The whole drift of my education goes to persuade me that the world of our present consciousness is only one out of many worlds of consciousness that exist.

William James

Education

There is nothing so stupid as an educated man, if you get him off the thing he was educated in.

Will Rogers

Education

These ceremonies and the National Statuary Hall will teach the youth of the land in succeeding generations as they come and go that the chief end of human effort in a sublunary view should be usefulness to mankind, and that all true fame which should be perpetuated by public pictures, statues, and monuments, is to be acquired only by noble deeds and high achievements and the establishment of a character founded upon the principles of truth, uprightness, and inflexible integrity.

Representative Alexander H. Stephens, remarks in the House, February 15, 1881, upon Vermont's presentation of a statue of Jacob Collamer to Statuary Hall.—Congressional Record, vol. 11, p. 1611.

Education

They who educate children well, are more to be honored than they who produce them; for these only gave them life, those the art of living well.

Aristotle

Education

This College is for all conditions and classes of men without regard to color, nationality, race, or religion. A man white, black, or yellow; Christian, Jew, Mohammedan, or heathen, may enter and enjoy all the advantages of this institution for three, four, or eight years, and go out believing in one God, in many Gods, or in no God. But it will be impossible for anyone to continue with us long without knowing what we believe to be the truth and our reasons for that belief.

Daniel Bliss

Credo for the American University of Beirut, 1871.

Education

To be a will-favored man is the gift of fortune; but to write and read comes by nature.

William Shakespeare

Much Ado About Nothing, III, iii, 14

Education

To educate a man in mind and not in morals is to educate a menace to society.

Attributed to Theodore Roosevelt.—August Kerber, Quotable Quotes of Education, p.138 (1968). Unverified.

Education

Training is everything. The peach was once a bitter almond; cauliflower is nothing but cabbage with a college education.

Mark Twain

Education

Upon the education of the people of this country the fate of this country depends.

Benjamin Disraeli, speech, House of Commons, June 15, 1874.—Parliamentary Debates (Commons), 3d series, vol. 219, col. 1618 (1874).

Education

What is defeat? Nothing but education, nothing but the first step to something better.

Wendell Phillips

Education

When asked how much educated men were superior to those uneducated, Aristotle answered, "As much as the living are to the dead."

Diogenes Laertius

Education

Whom, then, do I call educated? First, those who control circumstances instead of being mastered by them, Those who meet all occasions manfully, and act in accordance with intelligent thinking, those who are honorable in all dealings, who treat good naturedly persons and things that are disagreeable, and furthermore, those who hold their pleasures under control and are not overcome by misfortune, finally Those who are spoiled by success.

Isocrates

Education

You can no more give what you haven't learned than you can come back from a place you've never been.

Author Unknown

Education

[The educated differ from the uneducated] as much as the living from the dead.

Attributed to Aristotle.

—Diogenes Laertius, Lives of Eminent Philosophers,

trans. R. D. Hicks, vol. 1, book 5, section 19, p. 463 (1942).

He also credits Aristotle with saying:

"Teachers who educated children deserved more

honour than parents who merely gave them birth; for bare

life is furnished by the one, the other ensures a good life" (p. 463).

Diogenes Laertius, a third century A.D. Greek writer, was a

literary compiler rather than a philosopher. Considered the most

significant secondary source of information covering the history

of philosophy, his book is the only work of its kind that has come down

to us Substantially intact. A special feature of it is the citation of original excerpts.

—Michael Grant, Greek and Latin Authors, pp. 131-32 (1980).

Egotism

A peacock has too little in its head and too much in its tail.

Swedish Proverb

Egotism

He who has nothing but virtues is not much better than he who has nothing but faults.

Swedish Proverb

Egotism

It is a curious fact that of all the illusions that beset mankind none is quite so curious as that tendency to suppose that we are mentally and morally superior to those who differ from us in opinion.

Elbert Hubbard

Egotism

Man never falls so low that he can see nothing higher than himself.

Theodore Parker

Egotism

Oh, to be in England

Now that April's there.

Robert Browning

Egotism

Religion is a monumental chapter in the history of human egotism.

William James

Egotism

Take egotism out, and you would castrate the benefactors.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Elections

An election is coming. Universal peace is declared, and the foxes have a sincere interest in prolonging the lives of the poultry.

George Eliot (Mary Ann Evans), Felix Holt, the Radical, chapter 5, p. 63 (1980). First published 1866.

Elections

And as it [the federal district] is to be appropriated to this use with the consent of the State ceding it; as the State will no doubt provide in the compact for the rights, and the consent of the citizens inhabiting it; as the inhabitants will find sufficient inducements of interest to become willing parties to the cession; as they will have had their voice in the election of the Government which is to exercise authority over them; as a municipal Legislature for local purposes, derived from their own suffrages, will of course be allowed them; and as the authority of the Legislature of the State, and of the inhabitants of the ceded part of it, to concur in the cession, will be derived from the whole people of the State, in their adoption of the Constitution, every imaginable objection seems to be obviated.

James Madison, The Federalist, ed. Benjamin F. Wright, no. 43, p. 310 (1961).

Elections

How shall we avert the dire calamities with which we are threatened? The answer comes from the graves of our fathers: By the frequent election of new men. Other help or hope for the salvation of free government there is none under heaven. If history does not teach this, we have read it all wrong.

Jeremiah S. Black, 'The Third Term: Reasons Against It,' Essays and Speeches of Jeremiah S. Black, ed. Chauncey F. Black, p. 383 (1886). First published in The North American Review, March 1880.

Elections

I am superstitious. I have scarcely known a party, preceding an election, to call in help from the neighboring states, but they lost the State.

Abraham Lincoln, letter to James W. Grimes, governor of Iowa, July 12, 1856.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P. Basler, vol. 2, p. 348 (1953).

Elections

I have serious doubts about the value of debates in a presidential election. They tend to be a test of reaction time rather than a genuine exposition of the participants' philosophies and programs. Further, in debate, candidates tend to overstate their views. In the 1960 situation I had a very practical objection: Nixon was widely known; Kennedy was not; dramatic debates would therefore help Kennedy.

Dwight D. Eisenhower, The White House Years, vol. 2, p. 599, footnote (1965).

Elections

I know nothing grander, better exercise, better digestion, more positive proof of the past, the triumphant result of faith in human kind, than a well-contested American national election.

Walt Whitman, "Democratic Vistas," Collect, in The Complete Poetry and Prose of Walt Whitman, vol. 2, p. 228 (1948).

Elections

Looking back, I am content. Win or lose, I have told you the truth as I see it. I have said what I meant and meant what I said. I have not done as well as I should like to have done, but I have done my best, frankly and forthrightly; no man can do more, and you are entitled to no less.

Adlai E. Stevenson, governor of Illinois, remarks on a radio and television broadcast summing up his presidential campaign on election eve, Chicago, Illinois, November 3, 1952.—Major Campaign Speeches of Adlai E. Stevenson, 1952, p. 315 (1953).

Elections

What is it we all seek for in an election? To answer its real purposes, you must first possess the means of knowing the fitness of your man; and then you must retain some hold upon him by personal obligation or dependence.

Edmund Burke, "Reflections on the Revolution in France" 1790, The Works of the Right Honorable Edmund Burke, vol. 3, p. 483 (1899).

Elections

When the shadow of the Presidential and Congressional election is lifted we shall, I hope be in a better temper to legislate.

Representative James A. Garfield, letter to General Hazen, August 1, 1867, concerning his difficulty in getting legislation passed to reduce the size of the military.—The Life and Letters of James Abram Garfield, vol. 1, p. 421 (1925).

Eloquence

For it is feeling and force of imagination that make us eloquent.

Quintilian [Marcus Fabius Quintilianus]

De Institutione Oratoria, X, 7, 15

Eloquence

The truest eloquence is that which holds us too mute for applause.

Edward G. Bulwer-Lytton

Encouragement

Providence seldom vouchsafes to mortals any more than just that degree of encouragement which suffices to keep them at a reasonably full exertion of their powers.

Nathaniel Hawthorne

Encouragement

What I most need is someone to make me do what I can.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Endurance

…all endeavor calls for the ability to tramp the last mile, shape the last plan, endure the last hours toil. The fight to the finish spirit is the one…characteristic we must posses if we are to face the future as finishers.

Author Unknown

Endurance

Endure, my heart: you once endured something even more dreadful.

Homer

The Odyssey, XX, 18

Endurance

Even his griefs are a joy long after to one that remembers all that he wrought and endured.

Homer

The Odyssey, XV, 400

Endurance

Finis coronat opus.

The ending crowns the work [in a good or bad sense].

Anonymous Latin Saying

Endurance

Remember that the horse that finishes a neck ahead wins the race.

Author Unknown

Endurance

To endure is greater than to dare.

William Thackeray

Enemies

Have you forgotten the story of "Lorna Doone"—how the Doones, men of high family, who had fallen under the displeasure of the Government, had betaken themselves to the Doone Valley, surrounded on all sides by precipitous mountains, and from this strongly fortified position levied their blackmail upon the surrounding country, killing and robbing and outraging the people of the land until the citizens were aroused and determined to extirpate them? Do you recall how the men of the eastern county gathered together on the eastern mountain, and the men from the western county gathered on the western mountain, with their arms and cannon ready to fall upon the Doones and destroy them, when by some untoward accident a cannon from the western ranks was trained across the valley and shot into the ranks of the men of the east, and how, inflamed by this accident, the men on the east trained their guns across the valley into the ranks of the men of the west, and while these foolish people were slaughtering one another, the Doones sallied forth and put both counties to flight and continued to rob and kill and outrage for years to come.

Let us heed the lesson, my countrymen! Let me say to Governor Kitchin and Senator Simmons and Chief Justice Clark: The Doones are in the valley. I pray you, gentlemen, train your guns a little lower.

Charles B. Aycock, governor of North Carolina, address prepared for delivery in Raleigh, North Carolina, April 12, 1912.—R. D. W. Connor and Clarence Poe, The Life and Speeches of Charles Brantley Aycock, p. 361-62 (1912).Aycock did not give the address because he died while making a speech on April 4. The story is from Lorna Doone by R. D. Blackmore.

Enemies

He who forgiveth, and is reconciled unto his enemy, shall receive his reward from God; for he loveth not the unjust doers.

Fri, sura 42.—The Koran, trans. George Sale, chapter 42, p. 361 (1).

Enemies

I have political enemies, of course—men who, influenced by party feeling, are not above attacking methods and possibly my official reputation; but personal ones—wretches willing to stab me in my homelife and affections, that I can not believe. My life has been as an open book. I have harmed no man knowingly and, as far as I know, no man has ever cherished a wish to injure me.

Anna Katherine Rohlfs, The Mayors Wife, p. 25 (1907).

Enemies

I never see a person trying to disclose

The scarlet letter on another's breast

That I do not wonder if he doesn't carry

Some mark of disgrace, which would ruin

Him, had he been overtaken by justice

Napoleon Hill

Enemies

It is an unhappy lot which finds no enemies.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 499

Enemies

Men are naturally God's enemies.

Jonathan Edwards (1703-1758)

Indirect quotation, Santayana, Winds of Doctrine

Enemies

Monarchs ought to put to death the authors and instigators of war, as their sworn enemies and as dangers to their states.

Elizabeth I (1533-1603), Queen of England

Letter

Enemies

Now the trumpet summons us again—not as a call to bear arms, though arms we need—not as a call to battle, though embattled we are—but a call to bear the burden of a long twilight struggle, year in and year out, "rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation"—a struggle against the common enemies of man: tyranny, poverty, disease and war itself.

President John F. Kennedy, inaugural address, January 20, 1961.—The Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: John F Kennedy, 1961, p. 2. The words in quotation marks are from the Bible, Romans 12:12.This is one of seven inscriptions carved on the walls at the gravesite of John F. Kennedy Arlington National Cemetery.

Enemies

One enemy is too much.

George Herbert

Jacula Prudentum, 523

Enemies

The English laborer does not find his worst enemy in the nobility, but in the middling class.

Orestes A. Brownson

The Laboring Classes, 1840.

Enemies

The haft of the arrow had been feathered with one of the eagle's own plumes. We often give our enemies the means of our own destruction.

Aesop

The Eagle And The Arrow

Enemies

The Stage, my Lords, and the Press, are two of our Out-Sentries; if we remove them,—if we hood-wink them,—if we throw them in Fetters; the Enemy may surprize us.

Philip Dormer Stanhope,

4th Earl of Chesterfield (1694-1773)

Against Licensing the Stage

(speech written for delivery,

House of Lord, 1737)

Enemies

To mortify and even to injure an opponent, reproach him with the very defect or vice…you feel…in yourself.

Ivan Turgenev, "The Rule of Life," Poems in Prose, in his A Reckless Character and Other Stories, trans. Isabel F. Hapgood, p. 317 (1904).

This appeared in Time, March 5, 1951, p. 31, in a different translation: "If you desire to put your enemy in the wrong or even to damage his reputation, blame him for the very vice which you feel in yourself."

Enemies

We have met the enemy and they are ours-two ships, two brigs, one schooner and a sloop.

Oliver Hazard Perry, message to General William Henry Harrison, September 10, 1813. The earliest printed source for this is found in Robert B. McAfee, History of the Late War in the Western Country, chapter 8, p. 354 (1816), and the message in its entirety as given here is reprinted in Messes and Letters of William Henry Harrison, ed. Logan Esarey, vol. 2, p. 539 (1922, reprinted 1975).

Benson J. Lossing, The Pictorial Field-Book of the War of 1812, p. 530 (1868), has a facsimile of the Perry message, with the introduction, "When Perry's eye perceived at a glance that victory was secure, he wrote, in pencil, on the back of an old letter, resting it upon his navy cap, that remarkable dispatch to General Harrison whose first clause has been so often quoted." No source for the original message is given. The circumstances under which the message was written have been told in many biographies of both Perry and Harrison.

Enemies

While I see many hoof marks going in, I see none coming out. It is easier to get into the enemy's toils than out again.

Aesop

The Lion, The Fox, And The Beasts

Enemies

Again people are looking for scapegoats. But this time the attack comes not from the outside but from within, from extremist splinter groups of the New Left made up of students and—I am sorry to acknowledge—also of some faculty who would like to see our colleges and universities denigrated, maligned and even shutdown. They insinuate, distort, accuse, their aim being not to identify and correct real abuses, but always rather by crying alarm intentionally to arouse and inflame passions in order to build support for "non- negotiable demands." Clearly the old McCarthy technique is at work again…. It is more difficult to maintain a realistic sense of human limitation, to refuse to become frustrated and angry; to analyze, to assess, to seek to understand and explain; to determine to be adult and fair; and thus to work patiently to improve while refusing to succumb to either cynicism or hopelessness. It is the long way around, but it is the civilized way, and the only way for those [who] have come truly to understand the role of humane learning.

Nathan M. Pusey, president of Harvard, speech at baccalaureate service, Cambridge, Massachusetts, June 9, 1970.—The New York Times, June 10, 1970, pp. 1, 30.

Enemies

At what point then is the approach of danger to be expected? I answer, if it ever reach us, it must spring up amongst us. It cannot come from abroad. If destruction be our lot, we must ourselves be its author and finisher. As a nation of freemen, we must live through all time, or die by suicide.

President Abraham Lincoln, address before the Young Men's Lyceum, Springfield, Illinois, January 27, 1838.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P Basler, vol. 1, p. 109 (1953).

Enemies

I have beheld no day since the commencement of hostilities that I have thought her liberties in such eminent danger as at present. Friends and foes seem now to combine to pull down the goodly fabric as we have hitherto been raising at the expence of so much time, blood, and treasure; and unless the bodies politick will exert themselves to bring things back to first principles, correct abuses, and punish our internal foes, inevitable ruin must follow.

General George Washington, letter to George Mason, March 27, 1779.—The Writings of George Washington, ed. John C. Fitzpatrick, vol. 14, p. 300 (1936).

Enemies

Since the general civilization of mankind, I believe there are more instances of the abridgment of the freedom of the people, by gradual and silent encroachments of those in power, than by violent and sudden usurpations.

James Madison, speech in the Virginia Convention, Richmond, Virginia, June 6, 1788.—The Papers of James Madison, ed. Robert A. Rutland and Charles F. Hobson, vol. 11, p. 79 (1977).This general defense of the Constitution was presented by Madison in response to Patrick Henry's lengthy attack on the Constitution the preceding day.

Enemies

We have met the enemy and he is us.

Walt Kelly, the words of Pogo in an Earth Day, 1971, cartoon strip, The Best of Pogo, ed. Mrs. Walt Kelly and Bill Crouch, Jr., p. 163 (1982).

This succinct expression was derived from a sentence in the Foreword of an earlier publication, The Pogo Papers (1953): "Resolve then, that on this very ground, with small flags waving and tinny blasts on tiny trumpets, we shall meet the enemy, and not only may he be ours, he may be us."

Energy

Energy, like the Biblical grain of mustard seed will remove mountains.

Hosea Ballou

Energy

Our decision about energy will test the character of the American people and the ability of the President and the Congress to govern this Nation. This difficult effort will be the "moral equivalent of war," except that we will be uniting our efforts to build and not to destroy.

President Jimmy Carter, address to the nation on the energy problem, April 18, 1977.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Jimmy Carter; 1977, book 1, p. 656.Carter was quoting William James, who used the phrase in his essay, "The Moral Equivalent of War": "So long as anti-militarists propose no substitute for war's disciplinary function, no moral equivalent of war, analogous, as one might say, to the mechanical equivalent of heat, so long they fail to realize the full inwardness of the situation…. We must make new energies and hardihoods continue the manliness to which the military mind so faithfully clings. Martial virtues must be the enduring cement; intrepidity, contempt of softness, surrender of private interest, obedience to command, must still remain the rock upon which states are built."—International Conciliation, February 1910, pp. 13, 15. The entire issue consisted of James's essay.

Energy

We must proceed with our own energy development. Exploitation of domestic petroleum and natural gas potentialities, along with nuclear, solar, geothermal, and non-fossil fuels is vital. We will never again permit any foreign nation to have Uncle Sam over a barrel of oil.

Vice President Gerald R. Ford, speech to the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, West Palm Beach, Florida, January 26, 1974.—Congressional Record, February 4, 1974, vol. 120, p. 2044.

England

England is the paradise of women, the purgatory of men, and the hell of horses.

John (Giovanni) Florio (1553?-1625)

Second Frutes (1591)

England

Go into the length and breadth of the world, ransack the literature of all countries, find, if you can, a single voice, a single book—find, I would almost say, as much as a single newspaper article, unless the product of the day, in which the conduct of England towards Ireland is anywhere treated except with profound and bitter condemnation.

William E. Gladstone, speech on home rule, June 7, 1886.—The Speeches of the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, ed. A. W. Hutton and H. J. Cohen, vol. 9, p. 127 (1902).

England

I have not become the King's First Minister in order to preside over the liquidation of the British Empire.

Prime Minister Winston Churchill, speech, Lord Mayor's luncheon, London, November 10, 1942.—Winston S. Churchill: His Complete Speeches, 1897-1963, ed. Robert Rhodes James, vol. 6, p. 6695 (1974).

England

I hold that the real policy of England—apart from questions which involve her own particular interests—is to be the champion of justice and right; pursuing that course with moderation and prudence, not becoming the Quixote of the world, but giving the weight of her moral sanction and support wherever she thinks that justice is, and wherever she thinks that wrong has been done.

Lord Palmerston, remarks in the House of Commons defending his foreign policy, March 1, 1848.—Hansard's Parliamentary Debates, 3d series, vol. 97, col. 122.

England

I return you many thanks for the honour you have done me; but Europe is not to be saved by any single man. England has saved herself by her exertions, and will, as I trust, save Europe by her example.

William Pitt, the younger response to the Lord Mayor's toast to Pitt's health as the "Saviour of Europe," Lord Mayor's banquet, London, November 9, 1805.—Philip Henry Stanhope, Life of the Right Honourable William Pitt, vol. 4, p. 346 (1867, reprinted 1970).This was Pitt's last public utterance.

England

The late M. Venizelos observed that in all her wars England—he should have said Britain, of course—always wins one battle—the last.

Prime Minister Winston Churchill, speech at Lord Mayor's luncheon, London, November 10, 1942.—Winston S. Churchill: His Complete Speeches, 1897-1968, ed. Robert Rhodes James, vol. 6, p. 6693 (1974).Eleutherios Venizelos was a Greek statesman who lived from 1864-1936. During World War I, he championed the cause of the Allies.

England

There is nothing so bad or so good that you will not find an Englishman doing it; but you will never find an Englishman in the wrong. He does everything on principle. He fights you on patriotic principles; he robs you on business principles; he enslaves you on imperial principles.

George Bernard Shaw, Man of Destiny, one act play, in his Complete Plays with Prefaces, vol. 1, p. 743 (1962). Napoleon is speaking.

England

They [the British] are like their own beer: froth on top, dregs at bottom, the middle excellent.

Attributed to Voltaire (Francois Marie Arouet).—The Home Book of Quotations, ed. Burton Stevenson, 9th ed., p. 560, no. 1 (1964).

England

This royal throne of kings, this scepter'd isle,

This earth of majesty, this seat of Mars,

This other Eden, demi-paradise

….This happy breed of men, this little world,

This precious stone set in a silver sea

….This blessed plot, this earth,

this realm, this England…

William Shakespeare

England

We do not intend to part from the Americans and we do not intend to be satellites. I am sure they do not want us to be so. The stronger we are, the better partners we shall be; and I feel certain that as the months pass we shall draw continually closer together with mutual confidence and respect.

Prime Minister Harold Macmillan, broadcast to the nation, London, January 17, 1957.—Vital Speeches of the Day, February 1, 1957, p. 247.

This was his first broadcast as prime minister.

England

Whatever is unknown is taken for marvelous; but now the limits of Britain are laid bare.

Caius Cornelius Tacitus

Agricola, sec. 30

England

Whoso pulleth out this sword of this stone and anvil, is rightwise king born of all England.

Sir Thomas Malory

Le Morte d'Arthur, I, 5

England

[Britons] would rather take the risk of civilizing communism than being kicked around by the unlettered potbellied money magnates of the United States.

Tom O'Brien, M.P, as quoted by The New York Times, August 23, 1949, p. 4.

English Language

England and America are two countries separated by the same language.

Attributed to George Bernard Shaw.—Picturesque Speech and Patter' Reader's Digest, November 1942, p. 100. This has not been verified in his published writings, but a number of quotation books published after 1942 have included this quotation, without naming the original published source.

English Language

Grammar, which knows how to control even kings.

Molière [Jean Baptiste Poquelin]

Les Femmes Savantes, Ii, 6

English Language

The difference between the almost right word and the right word is really a large matter—'tis the difference between the lightning-bug and the lightning.

Mark Twain (Samuel L. Clemens).—George Bainton, The Art of Authorship, pp. 87-88 (1890).Bainton asked leading authors for "literary reminiscences, methods of work, and advice to young beginners," and compiled their answers to produce his book.

English Language

The gift of a common tongue is a priceless inheritance and it may well some day become the foundation of a common citizenship.

Prime Minister Winston Churchill, speech at Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, September 6, 1943.—Winston S. Churchill: His Complete Speeches, 1897-1969, ed. Robert Rhodes James, vol. 7, p. 6825 (1974).

English Language

This is the sort of pedantry up with which I will not put.

Winston Churchill, marginal note after receiving a civil servant's objection to the ending of a sentence with a preposition and the use of a dangling participle in official documents.—Kay Halle, Irrepressible Churchill, p. 166 (1966).In other versions of this anecdote, the word "English" is often used instead of "pedantry."

Enthusiasm

Enthusiasm glows…radiates…permeates…and immediately captures everyone's interest.

Paul J. Meyer

Enthusiasm

Enthusiasm helps us to compete with ourselves, to match today against yesterday. Only with the compulsive drive of enthusiasm can we find encouragement in the past mistakes.

Paul J. Meyer

Enthusiasm

Enthusiasm is emotion management; The ability to control the emotional

temperature of any personal situation.

Paul J. Meyer

Enthusiasm

Enthusiasm is the advance man who paves the way for new ideas. Maybe the enthusiasts aren't the most cultured people in the world, but they are the only ones who make history.

Paul J. Meyer

Enthusiasm

Enthusiasm is the greatest one-word slogan for living ever devised.

Paul J. Meyer

Enthusiasm

Enthusiasm is the mother of effort, and without it nothing great was ever accomplished.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Enthusiasm

Enthusiasm is the producer of confidence that cries to the world, 'I've got what it takes' without uttering a word to boast.

Paul J. Meyer

Enthusiasm

Enthusiasm is the Spirit of God working with you.

Author Unknown

Enthusiasm

Enthusiasm is the way you squeeze the trigger to other people's emotions—they help and support you instinctively.

Paul J. Meyer

Enthusiasm

Enthusiasm is the yeast that raises the dough.

Paul J. Meyer

Enthusiasm

Enthusiasm is: A quiet spiritual strength: An inner glow: Faith in action: Greatest asset in the world: Beats money power influence: Tramples over prejudice.

Author Unknown

Enthusiasm

Enthusiasm will be as contagious as ever.

Author Unknown

Enthusiasm

I would rather have the ardor of my soldiers and they half trained, than have the best fighting machine in Europe without this element.

Napoleon Bonaparte

Enthusiasm

If you were to take my money and my other tangible assets from me but let me keep my enthusiasm, it would be but a short while before I'd be as wealthy as ever.

Paul J. Meyer

Enthusiasm

In things pertaining to enthusiasm no man is sane who does not know how to be insane on proper occasions.

Henry Ward Beecher

Enthusiasm

The golden thread through it is enthusiasm and determination.

Author Unknown

Enthusiasm

We act as though comfort and luxury were the chief requirements of life, when all we need to make us really happy is something to be enthusiastic about.

Charles Kingsley

Enthusiasm

You cannot kindle a fire in any other heart until it is burning in your own.

Author Unknown

Environment

I've often thought that if our zoning boards could be put in charge of botanists, of zoologists and geologists, and people who know about the earth, we would have much more wisdom in such planning than we have when we leave it to the engineers.

Justice William O. Douglas, remarks at conference sponsored by the American Histadrut Cultural Exchange Institute, Harriman, New York, February 17-19, 1967.—Government and the Democratic Process; A Symposium by American and Israeli Experts, ed. Judd L. Toller, p. 16 (1969).

Environment

In the last few decades entire new categories of waste have come to plague and menace the American scene…. Pollution is growing at a rapid rate…. Pollution destroys beauty and menaces health. It cuts down on efficiency, reduces property values and raises taxes…. Almost all these wastes and pollutions are the result of activities carried on for the benefit of man. A prime national goal must be an environment that is pleasing to the senses and healthy to live in. Our Government is already doing much in this field. We have made significant progress. But more must be done.

President Lyndon B. Johnson, special message to the Congress on conservation and restoration of natural beauty, February 8, 1965.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Lyndon B. Johnson, 1965, book 1, pp. 161-62.

Environment

Never before has man had such capacity to control his own environment, to end thirst and hunger, to conquer poverty and disease, to banish illiteracy and massive humanmisery. We have the power to make this the best generation of mankind in the history of the world—or to make it the last.

President John F. Kennedy, address before the General Assembly of the United Nations, New York City, September 20, 1963.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: John F Kennedy, 1963, p. 696.

Environment

We have come tardily to the tremendous task of cleaning up our environment. We should have moved with similar zeal at least a decade ago. But no purpose is served by postmortems. With visionary zeal but the greatest realism, we must now address ourselves to the vast problems that confront us.

Representative Gerald R. Ford, Earth Day address, Grand Rapids, Michigan, April 22, 1970.—Gerald R. Ford, Selected Speeches, ed. Michael V. Doyle, p. 84 (1973).

Environment

You could cover the whole world with asphalt, but sooner or later green grass would break through.

Attributed to Ilya Ehrenburg.—The Hen' York Times Book Review, October 22, 1967, p. 1. Unverified.Patricia Blake, author of the book review, obtained this quotation from the late Max Hayward, who may have gotten it directly from Ehrenburg.

Envy

Envy always implies conscious inferiority wherever it resides.

Plutarch

Envy

Envy is a pain of mind that successful men cause their neighbors.

Onasander

The General, 42, 25

Envy

Envy shoots at others and wounds herself.

Swedish Proverb

Envy

Envy slays itself by its own arrows.

Greek Anthology [Loeb Classical Library], X, 111

Envy

Potter bears a grudge against potter, and craftsman against craftsman, and beggar is envious of beggar, and bard of bard.

Hesiod

Epitaphs

Dis manibus sacrum [abbreviation DMS].

Sacred to the departed spirit (s).

Anonymous Latin

Inscription on tombstones

Epitaphs

Et in Arcadia ego.

I too have lived in Arcadia.

Anonymous Latin

Inscription on a tomb

in a painting by Guercino

Epitaphs

Free at last, free at last

Thank God almighty

We are free at last

Martin Luther King, Jr., epitaph, South View Cemetery, Atlanta, Georgia.King was buried on a site adjoining Ebenezer Baptist Church. He had quoted these words from a Negro spiritual to end his "I Have a Dream" speech given during the march on Washington, August 28, 1963, Washington, D.C.—Coretta Scott King, The Words of Martin Luther King, Jr, p. 98 (1984).

See No. 462 for a quotation from the "I Have a Dream" speech.

Epitaphs

Future times will hardly know how great a life

This simple stone commemorates—

The tradition of his Eloquence, his

Wisdom and his Wit may fade:

But he lived for ends more durable than fame,

His Eloquence was the protection of the poor and wronged;

His Learning illuminated the principles of Law—

In the admiration of his Peers,

In the respect of his People,

In the affection of his Family,

His was the highest place;

The just meed

Of his kindness and forbearance

His dignity and simplicity

His brilliant genius and his unwearied industry

Unawed by Opinion,

Unseduced by Flattery,

Undismayed by Disaster

He confronted Life with antique Courage

And Death with Christian Hope.

Excerpt from inscription on the monument over the grave of James Louis Petigru, St. Michael's churchyard, Charleston, South Carolina.—James Petrigru Carson, Life, Letters and Speeches of James Louis Petigru, the Union Man of South Carolina, p. 487 (1920).

Epitaphs

Good friend, for Jesus' sake forbear

To dig the dust enclosed here;

Blest be the man that spares these stones,

And curst be he that moves my bones.

William Shakespeare

Shakespeare's epitaph

Epitaphs

Here was buried

Thomas Jefferson

author

of the Declaration of

American Independence

of

the Statute of Virginia

for Religious Freedom, and

Father of the University

of Virginia

Thomas Jefferson,

epitaph he wrote for himself and wanted on his tombstone.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Paul L. Ford, vol. 10, p. 396 (1899). It is on his gravestone at Monticello.

Epitaphs

His faith, perhaps in some nice tenets might

Be wrong; his life, I'm sure, was in the right.

Abraham Cowley

On the Death of Mr. Crashaw

Epitaphs

I am no lover of pompous title, but only desire that my name may be recorded in a line to two, which shall briefly express my name, my virginity, the years of my reign, the reformation of religion under it, and my preservation of peace.

Elizabeth I

To her ladies, discussing her epitaph

Epitaphs

If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea.

Inscription on the tombstone of Charles A. Lindbergh, on the island of Maui, Hawaii.—The Bible, Psalms 139:9.

Epitaphs

Requiescat in pace [abbreviation RIP].

May he rest in peace.

Anonymous Latin Saying

Epitaphs

Sit tibi terra levis [abbreviation STTL].

May the earth rest lightly on you.

Anonymous Latin

Inscription on tombstones

Epitaphs

The modest front of this small floor,

Believe me, reader, can say more

Than many a braver marble can—

"Here lies a truly honest man!"

Richard Crashaw

Epitaph Upon Mr. Ashton

Epitaphs

This is the tomb of Callimachus that thou art passing. He could sing well, and laugh well at the right time over the wine.

Callimachus

His Own Epitaph. Greek Anthology, VII, 415

Equality/Inequality

All animals are equal

But some animals are more equal than others

George Orwell, Animal Farm, chapter 10, p. 112 (1946).

Equality/Inequality

Among beings so nearly equal in power and capacity as men of the same community are, it is impossible that a solitary tyrant should exist. Laws that are designed to operate unequally on society must offer an exclusive interest to a considerable portion of its members, to ensure their execution upon the rest. Hence has arisen the necessity of that strange complication in the governing power which has made of politics an inexplicable science; hence the reason for arming one class of our fellow creatures with the weapons of bodily destruction, and another with the mysterious artillery of the vengeance of heaven.

Joel Barlow

Advice to the Privileged Orders.

Equality/Inequality

Equal laws protecting equal rights…the best guarantee of loyalty & love of country.

James Madison, letter to Jacob De La Motta, August 1820.—The Writings of James Madison, ed. Gaillard Hunt, vol. 9, p. 30 (1910).

These words are inscribed in the Madison Memorial Hall, Library of Congress James Madison Memorial Building.

Equality/Inequality

From the naturalistic point of view, all men are equal. There are only two exceptions to this rule of naturalistic equality: geniuses and idiots.

Mikhail A. Bakunin

Gesammelte Werke, II, 249.

Equality/Inequality

I know that God has given us the use of goods, but only as far as is necessary; and He has determined that the use shall be common.

Clement of Alexandria

Equality/Inequality

I make no distinction between Trojan and Tyrian.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aeneid, I, 574

Equality/Inequality

If liberty and equality, as is thought by some, are chiefly to be found in democracy, they will be best attained when all persons alike share in the government to the utmost.

Aristotle

Politics, IV, 4

Equality/Inequality

If there is a human being who is freer than I, then I shall necessarily become his slave. If I am freer than any other, then he will become my slave. Therefore equality is an absolutely necessary condition of freedom. The first duty…is that of making every effort for the triumph of equality…. This is the entire program of revolutionary socialism, of which equality is the first condition, the first word. It admits freedom only after equality, in equality and through equality, because freedom outside of equality can only create privilege.

Mikhail A. Bakunin

Gesammelte Werke, Golos trude edition, II, 74.

Equality/Inequality

In regard to this principle, that all men are born free and equal, if there is an animal on earth to which it does not apply—that is not born free, it is man—he is born in a state of the most abject want, and in a state of perfect helplessness and ignorance, which is the foundation of the connubial tie…. Who should say that all the soil in the world is equally rich, the first rate land in Kentucky and the Highlands of Scotland because the superficial content of the acre is the same, would be just as right as he who should maintain the absolute equality of man in virtue of his birth. The ricketty and scrofulous little wretch who first sees the light in a work-house, or in a brothel, and who feels the effects of alcohol before the effects of vital air, is not equal in any respect to the ruddy offspring of the honest yeoman; nay, I will go further and say that a prince, provided he is no better born than royal blood will make him, is not equal to the healthy son of a peasant.

Senator John Randolph of Roanoke, remarks in the Senate, Register of Debates, vol. 2, March 2, 1826, col. 126.

Equality/Inequality

In whatsoever way any come to Me,

In that same way I grant them favor.

Bhagavad Gita

Gita 4, 11

Equality/Inequality

It is a wise man who said that there is no greater inequality than the equal treatment of unequals.

Justice Felix Frankfurter, dissenting, Dennis v. United States, 339 U.S. 184 (1949).

Equality/Inequality

It is agreed that American citizenship shall be the only credential necessary to justify the claim of equality before the law, and that no condition in life shall give rise to discrimination in the treatment of the people by their Government.

Grover Cleveland

Annual Message to Congress, 1888.

Equality/Inequality

It is not fit that men should be compared with gods.

Gaius Valerius Catullus

Carmina, LXVIII, 141

Equality/Inequality

Legislation to apply the principle of equal pay for equal work without discrimination because of sex is a matter of simple justice.

President Dwight D. Eisenhower, annual message to the Congress on the State of the Union, January 5, 1956.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Dwight D. Eisenhower, 1956, p. 23. Read before a joint session of Congress by a clerk of the House of Representatives.

Equality/Inequality

Let the revolting distinction of rich and poor disappear, once and for all, the distinction of great and small, of masters and valets, of governors and governed. Let there be no other difference between human beings than those of age and sex. Since all have the same needs and the same faculties, let there be one education for all, one food for all.

Francois Emile (Gracchus) Babeuf

Manifesto of the Equals.

Equality/Inequality

Now I do not believe the Almighty ever intended the negro to be the equal of the white man. If He did, He has been a long time demonstrating the fact.

Stephen A (rnold) Douglas (1813-1861)

Debate With Lincoln, Ottawa, Ill., August 21, 1858

Equality/Inequality

Primus inter pares.

The first among equals.

Anonymous Latin Saying

Equality/Inequality

Take, for instance, a twig and a pillar, or the ugly person and the great beauty, and all the strange and monstrous transformations. These are all leveled together by Tao. Division is the same as creation; creation is the same as destruction.

Chuang Tzu

On Leveling All Things

Equality/Inequality

The moment has arrived for founding the Republic of Equals.

Francois Emile (Gracchus) Babeuf

Manifesto of the Equals.

Equality/Inequality

The souls of emperors and cobblers are cast in the same mold…. The same reason that makes us wrangle with a neighbor causes a war betwixt princes.

Michel Eyquem de Montaigne

Essays, II, 12

Equality/Inequality

They who say all men are equal speak an undoubted truth; if they mean that all men have an equal right to liberty, to their property and to their protection of the laws. But they are mistaken if they think men are equal in their station and employments, since they are not so by their talents.

Voltaire

Equality/Inequality

To compare great things with small.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Eclogues, I, 23

Equality/Inequality

We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Thomas Jefferson

Equality/Inequality

We wish, in a word, equality—equality in fact as corollary, or, rather, as primordial condition of liberty. From each according to his faculties, to each according to his needs; that is what we wish sincerely.

Mikhail A. Bakunin

Declaration signed by forty-seven Anarchists after failure

of uprising at Lyons, 1870.

Equality/Inequality

What I must do is all that concerns me, not what the people think. This rule, equally arduous in actual and in intellectual life, may serve for the whole distinction between greatness and meanness…. It is easy in the world to live after the world's opinion; it is easy in solitude to live after our own; but the great man is he who in the midst of the crowd keeps with perfect sweetness the independence of solitude.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Essays: First Series (1841)

Equality/Inequality

What is yours is mine, and all mine is yours.

Titus Maccius Plautus

Trinummus, act II, sc. ii, l. 48

Equality/Inequality

Woman was taken out of man, not out of his head to top him, nor out of his feet to be trampled underfoot, but out of his side to be equal to him, under his arm to be protected, and near his heart to be loved.

Author Unknown

Equality/Inequality

Americans are so enamored of equality that they would rather by equal in slavery than unequal in freedom.

Alexis de Tocqueville

Equality/Inequality

Banish the mysticism of inequality and you banish almost all of the evils attendant on human nature.

Joel Barlow

Quoted by Justice Douglas, An Almanac of Liberty.

Equality/Inequality

By law of nature all men are equal.

Domitius Ulpian

Equality/Inequality

From time immemorial it has been repeated, with hypocrisy, that men are equal; and from time immemorial the most degrading and the most monstrous inequality ceaselessly weighs on the human race.

Francois Emile (Gracchus) Babeuf

Manifesto of the Equals.

Equality/Inequality

I reckon there's as much human nature in some folks as there is in others, if not more.

Edward Noyes Westcott

Equality/Inequality

If the poor man is not able to support his suit according to the vexations and expensive manner established in civilized countries, has not the rich as great an advantage over him as the strong has over the weak in a state of nature?

Edmund Burke

A Vindication of Natural Society, 1756.

Equality/Inequality

In a democracy the majority of citizens is capable of exercising the most cruel oppressions upon the minority…and that oppression of the minority will extend to far greater numbers, and will be carried on with much greater fury, than can almost ever be apprehended from the dominion of a single sceptre. Under a cruel prince they have the plaudits of the people to animate their generous constancy under their sufferings; but those who are subjected to wrong under multitudes are deprived of all external consolation: they seem deserted by mankind, overpowered by a conspiracy of their whole species.

Edmund Burke

Reflections on the Revolution in France, 1790.

Equality/Inequality

It is absurd and disgraceful to live magnificently and luxuriously when so many are hungry.

Clement of Alexandria

Equality/Inequality

No one can observe the signs of the times with much care without perceiving that a crisis, as to the relation of wealth and labor, is approaching. It is useless to shut our eyes to the fact and, like the ostrich, fancy ourselves secure because we have so concealed our heads that we see not the danger. We or our children will have to meet this crisis. The old war between the King and the Barons is well-nigh ended, and so is that between the Barons and the Merchants and Manufacturers—landed capital and commercial capital. The business man has become the peer of my Lord. And now commences the new struggle between the operative and his employer, between wealth and labor. Every day does this struggle extend further and wax stronger and fiercer; what or when the end will be, God only knows.

Orestes A. Brownson

The Laboring Classes, 1840.

Equality/Inequality

Our new government's foundations are laid, its cornerstone rests, upon the great truth that the Negro is not equal to the white man, that slavery—subordination to the superior race—is his natural and normal condition.

Alexander H. Stephens

Equality/Inequality

The defect of equality is that we only desire it with our superiors.

Henry Becque

Equality/Inequality

The most dreaded of all wars, the war of the poor against the rich, a war which, however long it may be delayed, will come, and come with all its horrors.

Orestes A. Brownson

Boston Quarterly, July, 1840.

Equality/Inequality

The use of all things that are found in this world ought to be common to all men. Only the most manifest iniquity makes one say to the other, "This belongs to me, that to you". Hence the origin of contention among men.

Clement of Alexandria

Equality/Inequality

We be all come from one father and one mother, Adam and Eve: whereby can they say or shew that they be greater lords than we be, saving by that they cause us to win and labour for that they dispend? They are clothed in velvet and camlet furred with grise and we be vestured with poor cloth; they have their wines, spices and good bread and we have the drawings out of the chaff and drink water: they dwell in fair houses and we have the pain and travail, rain and wind in the fields; and by that that cometh of our labours they keep and maintain their estates: we be called their bondmen, and without we do readily them service, we be beaten; and we have no sovereign to whom we may complain, nor that will hear us nor do us right.

John Ball

"How the Commons of England Rebelled Against the Noblemen" (1381),

Chronicles of Froissart, 1523.

Equality/Inequality

Wherever there is great property, there is great inequality…for one very rich man, there must be at least five hundred poor.

Adam Smith

Equality/Inequality

Your levellers wish to level down as far as themselves, but they cannot bear levelling up to themselves.

Samuel Johnson

Error

An error is the more dangerous in proportion to the degree of truth which it contains.

Henri Frederic Amiel

Error

An old error is always more popular than a new truth.

German Proverb

Error

Error is always more busy than truth.

Hosea Ballou

Error

If any man hopes to do a deed without God's knowledge, he errors.

Pindar

Olympian Odes I, 104

Error

No mans error becomes his own Law; nor obliges him to persist in it.

Thomas Hobbes, Leviathan, part 2, p. 237 (1950).

Error

The cautious seldom err.

Confucius

The Confucian Analects, 4:23

Error

They defend their errors as if they were defending their inheritance.

Edmund Burke

Error

Truth will sooner come out of error than from confusion.

Francis Bacon

Error

When everyone is in the wrong, everyone is in the right.

Pierre de La Chausee

Eternity

And forever, O my brother, hail and farewell!

Gaius Valerius Catullus

Carmina, CI, 10

Eternity

As long as rivers shall run down to the sea, or shadows touch the mountain slopes, or stars graze in the vault of heaven, so long shall your honor, your name, your praises endure.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aeneid, I, 607

Eternity

I have built a monument more lasting than bronze.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Odes, III, xxx, 1

Ethics/Morals

A thousand starve, a few are fed,

Legions of robbers rack the poor,

The rich man steals the widow's bread,

And Lazarus dies at Dives' door;

The Lawyer and the Priest adjust

The claims of Luxury and Lust

To seize the earth and hold the soil,

To store the grain they never reap;

Under their heels the white slaves toil,

While children wail and women weep!

Robert Buchanan

The New Rome.

Ethics/Morals

All excellent things are as difficult as they are rare.

Benedict [Baruch] Spinoza

Ethics, V, proposition, 42: note

Ethics/Morals

All the religion we have is the ethics of one or another holy person.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Ethics/Morals

Can anything be imagined more abhorrent to every sentiment of generosity or justice than the law which arms the rich with the legal right to fix, by assize, the wages of the poor? If this is not SLAVERY, we have forgotten its definition. Strike the right of associating for the sale of labour from the privileges of a freeman, and you may as well at once bind him to a master, or ascribe him to the soil. If it be not in the color of his skin, and in the poor franchise of naming his own terms in a contract for his work, what advantage has the labourer of the north over the bondman of the south? Punish by human laws a "determination not to work", make it penal by any other penalty than idleness inflicts, and it matters little whether the task-masters be one or many, an individual or an order, the hateful scheme of slavery will have gained a foothold in the land.

William Cullen Bryant

Editorial on the rights of workmen to organize and strike, June 13, 1836.

Ethics/Morals

Divine morality is the absolute negation of human morality.

Mikhail A. Bakunin

Ethics/Morals

Failure seems to be regarded as the one unpardonable crime, success as the all-redeeming virtue, the acquisition of wealth as the single worthy aim of life. The hair-raising revelations of skull-duggery and grand-scale thievery merely incite others to surpass by yet bolder outrages and more corrupt combinations.

Charles Francis Adams

Ethics/Morals

First secure an independent income, then practice virtue.

Greek Proverb

Ethics/Morals

He is his own best friend, and takes delight in privacy whereas the man of no virtue or ability is his own worst enemy, and is afraid of solitude.

Aristotle

Ethics, IV, 3. Quoted by Durant, The Story of Philosophy.

Ethics/Morals

I could be content that we might procreate like trees, without conjunction, or that there were any way to perpetuate the world without this trivial and vulgar way of coition: it is the foolishest act a wise man commits in all his life.

Thomas Browne

Hydriotaphia, or Urne-Buriall, 1658, #9.

Ethics/Morals

I have gained this by philosophy: that I do without being commanded what others do only from fear of the law.

Aristotle

From Diogenes Laertius, V, 21

Ethics/Morals

I wished my wife to be not so much as suspected.

Julius Caesar

From Plutarch, Lives, Caesar, sec. 10

Ethics/Morals

In a state of nature it is true that a man of superior force may beat or rob me; but then it is true that I am at full liberty to defend myself, or make reprisal by surprise, or by cunning, or by any other way in which I may be superior to him. But in political society a rich man may rob me in another way. I cannot defend myself; for money is the only weapon with which we are allowed to fight. And if I attempt to avenge myself, the whole force of that society is ready to complete my ruin.

Edmund Burke

A Vindication of Natural Society, 1756.

Ethics/Morals

In morals, always do as others do; in art, never.

Jules Renard

Ethics/Morals

It is hard to say whether the doctors of law or divinity have made the greater advances in the lucrative business of mystery.

Edmund Burke

A Vindication of Natural Society, 1756.

Ethics/Morals

It is the duty of the free man to live for his own sake, and not for others….Exploitation does not belong to a depraved or an imperfect and primitive state of society…it is a consequence of the intrinsic Will to Power, which is just the Will to Live.

Friedrich Nietzsche

Ethics/Morals

Manfully have the British Commoners struggled against the old feudal aristocracy, and so successfully that they now constitute the dominant power in the state. To their struggles against the throne and the nobility is the English nation indebted for the liberty it so loudly boasts, and which, during the last half of the last century, so enraptured the friends of humanity throughout Europe. But this class has done nothing for the laboring population, the real proletarii. It has humbled the aristocracy; it has raised itself to dominion, and it is now conservative—conservative, in fact, whether it call itself Whig or Radical. From its near relation to the workingmen, its kindred pursuits with them, it is altogether more hostile to them than the nobility ever were or ever can be.

Orestes A. Brownson

The Laboring Classes, 1840.

Ethics/Morals

Morality is the custom of one's country and the current feeling of one's peers. Cannibalism is moral in a cannibal country.

Samuel Butler

Ethics/Morals

Neither the Church of Christ, nor a Christian Commonwealth, ought to tolerate such as prefer private gain to the public weal, or seek it to the hurt of their neighbors.

Martin Bucer

De Regno Christi.

Ethics/Morals

No one should expect the government to act in accordance with the moral code appropriate to the conduct of the individual.

Baruch Spinoza

Ethics/Morals

Oh what times! Oh what standards!

Marcus Tullius Cicero

In Catilinam, I, 1

Ethics/Morals

So long as a man imagines that he cannot do this or that, so long is he determined not to do it: and consequently, so long it is impossible to him that he should do it.

Benedict [Baruch] Spinoza

Ethics, 28: explanation

Ethics/Morals

Some prefer riches, some good health, some power, some public honors, and many even prefer sensual pleasures…. Again, there are those who place the "chief good" in virtue and that is really a noble view; but this very virtue is the parent and preserver of friendship and without virtue, friendship cannot exist at all.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

On Friendship. Copyright, Loeb Classical Library.

Ethics/Morals

The gods are dead, but in their name

Humanity is sold to shame,

While (then as now!) the tinsel'd Priest

Sitteth with robbers at the feast,

Blesses the laden blood-stain'd board,

Weaves garlands round the butcher's sword,

And poureth freely (now as then)

The sacramental blood of Men!

Robert Buchanan

The New Rome.

Ethics/Morals

The good of man must be the end of the science of politics.

Aristotle

Ethics/Morals

The paramount virtue of religion is that it has lighted up morality.

Matthew Arnold

Ethics/Morals

The whole business of the poor is to administer to the idleness of the rich; and that of the rich, in return, is to find the best methods of confirming the slavery and increasing the burdens of the poor.

Edmund Burke

A Vindication of Natural Society, 1756.

Ethics/Morals

There is no attribute of the superior man greater than his helping men to practice virtue.

Mencius

Book II, 1:8.5

Ethics/Morals

Those are most desirous of honor and glory who cry out the loudest of its abuse and the vanity of the world.

Benedict [Baruch] Spinoza

Ethics, V, proposition, 10: note

Ethics/Morals

To give aid to every poor man is far beyond the reach and power of every man…. Care of the poor is incumbent on society as a whole.

Benedict [Baruch] Spinoza

Ethics, appendix, 17

Ethics/Morals

Two things fill the mind with ever new and increasing wonder and awe—the starry heavens above me, and the moral law within me.

Immanuel Kant

Ethics/Morals

Wages is a cunning device of the devil, for the benefit of tender consciences, who would retain all the advantages of the slave system, without the expense, trouble, and odium of being slave-holders.

Orestes A. Brownson

Boston Quarterly, July, 1840.

Etiquette

Etiquette is getting sleepy in company and not showing it.

Hyman Maxwell Berston

Europe

Europe extends to the Alleghenies; America lies beyond.

Attributed to Ralph Waldo Emerson. Unverified.

Europe

Europe has been at peace since 1945. But it is a restless peace that's shadowed by the threat of violence.

Europe is partitioned. An unnatural line runs through the heart of a very great and a very proud nation [Germany]. History warns us that until this harsh division has been resolved, peace in Europe will never be secure.

We must turn to one of the great unfinished tasks of our generation—and that unfinished task is making Europe whole again.

President Lyndon B. Johnson, remarks before the National Conference of Editorial Writers, New York City, October 7, 1966.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Lyndon B. Johnson, 1966, book 2, p. 1126.

Europe

My conclusion will be simple. It will consist of saying, in the very midst of the sound and the fury of our history: "Let us rejoice." Let us rejoice, indeed, at having witnessed the death of a lying and comfort-loving Europe and at being faced with cruel truths.

Albert Camus,

'Create Dangerously' lecture given at the

University of Uppsala, Sweden, December 1957.

—Camus, Resistance, Rebellion and Death,

trans. Justin O'Brien, p. 270 (1961).

Europe

When France has a cold, all Europe sneezes.

Klemens Von Metternich.—This quotation could not be verified in the English translations of his Memoires. It is attributed to him in George P Gooch, The Second Empire, p. 18 (1960) and, in variant form, in Alan W Palmer Quotations in History, p. 154 (1976).An American variation on this is: "There are those in South Carolina, and Mr. Pickens among the number who do not 'sneese when Mr. Calhoun takes snuff.' We are always amused when we hear the oft repeated slang—that South Carolina never speaks until Mr. Calhoun is heard."—The Charleston Mercury, June 20, 1846, p. 2, referring to former Representative Francis W Pickens and to Senator John C. Calhoun.

Evil

9. Necessity is an evil, but there is no necessity to live under the control of necessity.

Epicurus (341-270 B.C.)

Fragments

Evil

A good End cannot sanctife evil Means; nor must we ever do Evil, that Good may come of it.

William Penn, Some Fruits of Solitude in Reflections & Maxims, no. 537, p. 102 (1903, reprinted 1976).

Evil

All evils are equal when they are extreme.

Pierre Corneille

Horace, III, 4

Evil

Although it be with truth thou speakest evil, that also is a crime.

St. Joannes Chrysostomus (St. John Chrysostom) (345?-407)

Homilies (c. 388)

Evil

And out of good still to find means of evil.

John Milton

Paradise Lost, I, 165

Evil

Do not seek evil gains; evil gains are the equivalant of disaster.

Hesiod

Ib. 352

Evil

Evil deeds do not prosper; the slow man catches up with the swift.

Homer

The Odyssey, VIII, 329

Evil

Evil does not exist at all…. Evil in its nature is neither a thing nor does it bring anything forth…. All things which are, by the very fact that they are, are good and come from good; but insofar as they are deprived of good, they are neither good nor do they exist.

Dionysius the Areopagite, first "bishop" of Athens

"Divine Names"

Evil

EVIL. That which one believes of others. It is a sin to believe evil of others, but it is seldom a mistake.

H. L. Mencken, A Book of Burlesques, p. 203 (1924).

Evil

Evils draw men together.

Aristotle

Rhetoric, I, 6

Evil

Fire and sea and woman, three evils.

Desiderius Erasmus (1465-1536)

Adagia (1500)

Evil

For men use, if they have an evil turn, to write it in marble: and whoso doeth us a good turn we write it in dust.

Sir Thomas More

Richard III and His Miserable End

Evil

Great book, great evil.

Callimachus

Fragment 359

Evil

He that has light within his own cleer brest

May sit i'th center and enjoy bright day,

But he that hides a dark soul, and foul thoughts

Benighted walks under the mid-day Sun;

Himself is his own dungeon.

John Milton, "A Mask Presented at Ludlow Castle, 1634," lines 380-84, The Works of John Milton, vol. 1, part 1, p. 99 (1931). The title was changed to "Comus" for the stage version in 1737.

Evil

He who is bent on doing evil can never want occasion.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 459

Evil

Hell is the work of prigs, pedants and professional truth-tellers.

Samuel Butler

Note-Books.

Evil

Honi soit qui mal y pense.

Shamed be the one who thinks evil of it.

Edward III (1312-1377), King of England

Attributed in 1349; motto of his Order of the Garter

Evil

I would far rather be ignorant than knowledgeable of evils.

Aeschylus

The Suppliant, 453

Evil

If evil be said of thee and if it be true, correct thyself; if it be a lie, laugh at it.

Epictetus

Evil

If gods do evil then they are not gods.

Euripides (485-406 B.C.)

Quoted in Edith Hamilton, The Greek Way of Life

Evil

If in the hand there be no wound one may hold poison in the hand. No poison follows where there is no wound; there is no evil for one who commits none.

Suttapitaka

Evil

In the extravagance of her evil she has brought shame both on herself and on all women who will come after her, even on one who is virtuous.

Homer

The Odyssey, XI 432

Evil

Malice is pleasure derived from another's evil which brings no advantage to oneself.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

Evil

Murder may be done by legal means, by plausible and profitable war, by calumny, as well as by dose or dagger.

Lord Acton (John E. E. Dalberg)

Letter to Mandell (later, Bishop) Creighton, April 5, 1887.

Evil

On being bid to revile Christ—"Eighty and six years have I served Him and He hath done me no wrong. How then can I speak evil of my King, who saved me?"

St. Polycarp of Smyrna

Farrar

Evil

Submit to the present evil, lest a greater one befall you.

Phaedrus

Fables, I, 2, 31

Evil

The greatest penalty of evildoing—namely, to grow in to the likeness of bad me.

Plato

Laws 728

Evil

The most preferable of evils.

Homer

The Iliad, XVII, 105

Evil

The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing.

Attributed to Edmund Burke, but never found in his works. It may be a paraphrase of Burke's view that "When bad men combine, the good must associate; else they will fall one by one, an unpitied sacrifice in a contemptible struggle" (Thoughts on the Cause of the Present Discontents, April 23, 1770).—Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, 15th ed., p. ix (1980).

Evil

The penalty good men pay for indifference to public affairs is to be ruled by evil men.

Attributed to Platoon the letterhead of the Constitution Party. Unverified. The Constitution Party was founded in 1952 and ceased in 1968, according to Edward L. and Frederick H. Schapsmeier, Political Parties and Civil Action Groups, pp. 122-23 (1981).

Evil

The true rule, in determining to embrace, or reject any thing, is not whether it have any evil in it; but whether it have more of evil, than of good. There are few things wholly evil, or wholly good. Almost every thing, especially of governmental policy, is an inseparable compound of the two; so that our best judgment of the preponderance between them is continually demanded.

Representative Abraham Lincoln, remarks in the House, June 20, 1848.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P. Basler vol. 1, p. 484 (1953).

Evil

There are a thousand hacking at the branches of evil to one who is striking at the root, and it may be that he who bestows the largest amount of time and money on the needy is doing the most by his mode of life to produce that misery which he strives in vain to relieve.

Henry David Thoreau, Walden, chapter 1, p. 98 (1966). Originally published in 1854.

Evil

There are a thousand hacking at the branches of evil to one who is striking at the root.

Henry David Thoreau

Evil

There can be no such thing as a necessary evil. For, if a thing is really necessary, it cannot be an evil and if it is an evil, it is not necessary.

Tiorio

Evil

There is nothing evil save that which perverts the mind and shackles the conscience.

St. Ambrose

Hexaem, 1, 31.

Evil

Think not lightly of evil, "It will not come to me." A water pot is filled by the fall of water drops; a fool is filled with evil, amassing it bit by bit.

Suttapitaka

Evil

We believe no evil till the evil's done.

Jean de la Fontaine

Fables, bk. 1, fable 8

Evil

With its own hand it ties

And gags itself—gives death and war

For pence doled out by kings from its

own store.

Its own are all things between earth and

heaven;

But this it knows not; and if one arise

To tell this truth, it kills him unforgiven.

Thomas Campbell

To the Spanish Patriots.

Evil

Yield not to evils, but attack all the more boldly.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aeneid, VI, 95

Evolution

There is no more reason to believe that man descended from some inferior animal than there is to believe that a stately mansion has descended from a small cottage.

William Jennings Bryan

Example

Children have more need of models than of critics.

Joubert

Example

Example is always more efficacious than precept.

Samuel Johnson

Example

Give what you command, and command what you will.

St. Augustine

Confessions, X, 29

Example

He that gives good advice builds with one hand; he that gives good counsel and example builds with both; but he that gives good admonition and bad example builds with one hand and pulls down with the other.

Francis Bacon

Example

How can I hear what you say, when what you do thunders in my ears?

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Example

I bid him look into the lives of men as though into a mirror, and from others to take an example for himself.

Terence [Publius Terentius Afer]

Adelphoe (The Brothers), 415

Example

If thou desirest to see thy child virtuous, let him not see his father's vices; thou canst not rebuke that in children that they behold practiced in thee; till reason be ripe, examples direct more than precepts; as thy behavior is before thy children's faces, such commonly is theirs behind their parents' backs.

Thomas Quarles

Example

If you want your neighbor to see what the Christ spirit will do for him; let him see what it has done for you.

Henry Ward Beecher

Example

In so far as you approach temptation to a man; you do him an injury; and if he is overcome; you share his guilt.

Samuel Johnson

Example

Live so that you can say to your child, You can do anything or say anything you see me say or do.

Author Unknown

Example

Never has a man who has bent himself been able to make others straight.

Mencius

Example

Others will follow your footsteps easier than they will your advice.

Author Unknown

Example

Practice yourself what you preach.

Plautus

Example

Preachers say, Do as I say, not as I do.

John Selden

Example

The best way for a man to train up a child in the way he should go is to travel that way himself.

Author Unknown

Example

Thou art my master and my author; thou art he from whom alone I took the style whose beauty has done me honor.

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy. Inferno, canto I, 85

Example

What you are doing rings so loudly in my ears that I can't hear what you're saying.

Author Unknown

Example

Whatever parent gives his children good instruction, and sets them at the same time a bad example, brings them food in one hand and poison in the other.

Balguy

Excellence

As I said in another connection: "An excellent plumber is infinitely more admirable than an incompetent philosopher. The society which scorns excellence in plumbing because plumbing is a humble activity and tolerates shoddiness in philosophy because it is an exalted activity will have neither good plumbing nor good philosophy. Neither its pipes nor its theories will hold water."

John W. Gardner, Excellence, Can We Be Equal and Excellent Too?, p. 86 (1961). Gardner was secretary of health, education, and welfare 1965-1968.

Excellence

Badness you can get easily, in quantity: the road is smooth, and it lies close by. But in front of excellence the immortal gods have put sweat, and long and steep is the way to it, and rough at first. But when you come to the top, then it is easy, even though it is hard.

Hesiod

Ib. 287

Excellence

Difficult, say you? Difficult to be a man of virtue, truly good, shaped and fashioned without flaw in the perfect figure of four-squared excellence, in body and mind, in act and thought?

Simonides of Ceos.—The Oedipus Tyrannus of Sophocles, trans. J. T. Sheppard, Introduction, p. xxxi (1920).

Excellence

It is better to never to begin a good work than, having begun it, to stop.

Bede [Venerable Bede]

Ecclesiastical History of the English People, I, 23

Excellence

It is hard to be truly excellent, foursquare in hand and foot and mind, formed without blemish.

Simonides

Fragment 4

Excellence

It is quality rather than quantity that matters.

Lucius Annaeus Seneca

Epistles, 45, 1

Excellence

It takes a long time to bring excellence to maturity.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 780

Excellence

Many evil men are rich, and good men poor, but we shall not exchange them our excellence for riches.

Solon

Fragment 4

Excellence

Non multa sed multum.

Not quantity but quality [Not many but much].

Anonymous Latin Proverb

Excellence

The Good of man is the active exercise of his soul's faculties in conformity with excellence or virtue, or if there be several human excellences or virtues, in conformity with the best and most perfect among them.

Aristotle, Nicomachean Ethics, trans. H. Rackham, book 1, chapter 7, section 15, p. 33 (1934).President John F. Kennedy often paraphrased this idea. On May 8, 1963, he said to a group of foreign students: "The ancient Greek definition of happiness was the full use of your powers along lines of excellence."—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: John F Kennedy, 1968, p. 380.

Excellence

The noblest search is the search for excellence.

Lyndon B. Johnson

Excellence

Thou wilt find rest from vain fancies if thou doest every act in life as though it were thy last.

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

Meditations, II, 5

Excellence

With regard to excellence, it is not enough to know, but we must try to have and use it.

Aristotle

Nicomachean Ethics, X, 9

Excuses

Any excuse will serve a tyrant.

Aesop

Excuses

How much easier our work would be if we put forth as much effort trying to improve the quality of the work as most of us do trying to find excuses for not properly attending to it.

George W. Ballinger

Excuses

I have generally found that a man who is good at manufacturing excuses is good at nothing else.

Benjamin Franklin

Excuses

Of all vain things, excuses are the vainest.

C. C. Buxton

Excuses

The man who really wants to do something finds a way, the other finds an excuse.

Author Unknown

Excuses

The most profitless thing to manufacture is excuses.

B. C. Forbes

Expectations

Blessed is he who expects nothing, for he shall never be disappointed.

Jonathan Swift

Expectations

Employees tend to live up to their managers expectations of them. If a managers expectations are high, productivity is likely to be excellent.

Author Unknown

Expectations

Rarely do the followers exceed the expectations of the leaders.

Author Unknown

Experience

All experience is an arch, to build upon.

Henry Adams

Experience

All my life I've known better than to depend on the experts. How could I have been so stupid, to let them go ahead?

President John F. Kennedy, conversation with Theodore C. Sorensen concerning the Bay of Pigs.—Sorensen, Kennedy, p. 309 (1965).

Experience

Don't ever take a fence down until you know the reason it was put up.

G. K. Chesterton

Experience

Even brute beasts and wandering birds do not fall into the same traps or nets twice.

St. Jerome

Letter, 54

Experience

Experience is a school where a man learns what a big fool he has been.

Josh Billings

Experience

Experience is the comb that Nature gives us when we are bald.

Belgian Proverb

Experience

Experience is what keeps a man who makes the same mistake twice from admitting it the third time around.

Terry McCormick

Experience

Experience keeps a dear school, but fools will learn in no other, and scarce in that.

Benjamin Franklin

Experience

He who has burned his mouth blows his soup.

German Proverb

Experience

I had rather have a fool to make me merry than experience to make me sad.

William Shakespeare

As You Like It, IV, i, 28

Experience

I have but one lamp by which my feet are guided, and that is the lamp of experience.

Patrick Henry

Experience

I have but one lamp by which my feet are guided; and that is the lamp of experience. I know of no way of judging the future but by the past.

Patrick Henry, speech to the Virginia Convention, Richmond, Virginia, March 23, 1775.—William Wirt, Sketches of the Life and Character of Patrick Henry, 9th ed., pp. 138-39 (1836, reprinted 1970). Language altered to first person.For information on the authenticity of the text of this speech, see the notes at No. 1061.

Experience

I know of no way of judging the future but by the past.

Patrick Henry

Experience

I've seen the elephant, and I've heard the owl, and I've been to the other side of the mountain.

Author unknown. "'Seeing the elephant,' though it has pre- and post-gold rush currency, was an immensely popular expression among the overlanders [those journeying in covered wagons to Oregon and California]…connoting, in the main, experiencing hardship and difficulty and somehow surviving. Emigrant diaries and letters are filled with humorous references to that ubiquitous animal."—John D. Unruh, Jr., The Plains Across: The Overland Emigrants and the Trans-Mississippi West, 1840-60, chapter 4, p. 443, note 22 (1979).

Experience

If history repeats itself, and the unexpected always happens, how incapable must Man be of learning from experience!

George Bernard Shaw, appendix 2 to Man and Superman, "Maxims for Rovolutionists," in his Selected Plays with Prefaces, vol. 3, p. 742 (1948).

Experience

If little profits that an idle king,

By this still hearth, among these barren crags,

Match'd with an aged wife, I mete and dole

Unequal laws unto a savage race,

That hoard, and sleep, and feed, and know not me.

I cannot rest from travel; I will drink

Life to the lees. All times I have enjoy'd

Greatly, have suffer'd greatly, both with those

That loved me, and alone; on shore, and when

Thro' scudding drifts the rainy Hyades

Vext the dim sea. I am become a name;

For always roaming with a hungry heart

Much have I seen and known,—cities of men

And manners, climates, councils, governments,

Myself not least, but honor'd of them all,—

And drunk delight of battle with my peers,

Far on the ringing plains of windy Troy.

I am a part of all that I have met;

Yet all experience is an arch wherethro'

Gleams that untravell'd world whose margin fades

For ever and for ever when I move.

How dull it is to pause, to make an end,

Te rust unburnish'd, not to shine in use!

As tho' to breathe were life! Life piled on life

Were all too little, and of one to me

Little remains; but every hour is saved

From that eternal silence, something more,

A bringer of new things; and vile it were

For some three suns to store and hoard myself,

And this gray spirit yearning in desire

To follow knowledge like a sinking star

Beyond the utmost bound of human thought.

It may be we shall touch the Happy Isles,

And see the great Achilles, whom we knew.

Tho' much is taken, much abides; and tho'

We are not now that strength which in old days

Moved earth and heaven, that which we are, we are,—

One equal temper of heroic hearts,

Made weak by time and fate, but strong in will

To strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield.

Alfred, Lord Tennyson, "Ulysses," lines 1-32 and 63-70, The Poetic and Dramatic Works of Alfred Lord Tennyson, pp. 117-18 (1899).

Experience

Like anybody, I would like to live a long life. Longevity has its place. But I'm not concerned about that now. I just want to do God's will. And He's allowed me to go up to the mountain. And I've looked over and I've seen the promised land. I may not get there with you, but I want you to know tonight that we as a people will get to the promised land.

Martin Luther King, Jr., address to sanitation workers, Memphis, Tennessee, April 3, 1968.—The New York Times, April 5, 1968, p. 24.Dr. King made this statement the day before his assassination in Memphis.

Experience

One thorn of experience is worth a whole wilderness of warning.

James Russell Lowell

Experience

Rulers, Statesmen, Nations, are want to be emphatically commended to the teaching which experience offers in history. But what experience and history teach is this—that peoples and governments never have learned anything from history, or acted on principles deduced from it. Each period is involved in such peculiar circumstances, exhibits a condition of things so strictly idiosyncratic, that its conduct must be regulated by considerations connected with itself, and itself alone.

Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel, The Philosophy of History, trans. J. Sibree, vol. 10, Introduction, p. 6 (1899).

Experience

The human understanding is no dry light, but receives infusion from the will and affections; whence proceed sciences which may be called "sciences as one would." For what a man had rather were true he more readily believes. Therefore he rejects difficult things from impatience of research; sober things, because they narrow hope; the deeper things of nature, from superstition; the light of experience, from arrogance and pride; things not commonly believed, out of deference to the opinion of the vulgar. Numberless in short are the ways, and sometimes imperceptible, in which the affections color and infect the understanding.

Francis Bacon

Novum Organum, Aphorism., xlix.

Experience

The tired ox treads with a firmer step.

St. Jerome

Letter 112

Experience

The years teach much which the days never know.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Experience

Theories are always very thin and unsubstantial; experience only is tangible.

Hosea Ballou

Experience

There are many truths of which the full meaning cannot be realized until personal experience has brought it home.

John Stuart Mill

Experience

To most men, experience is like the stern lights of a ship which illumine only the track it has passed.

Samuel Taylor Coleridge

Experience

We know nothing of what will happen in future, but by the analogy of experience.

Abraham Lincoln, speech on the sub-Treasury, in the hall of the House of Representatives, Springfield, Illinois, December 26, 1839.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P Basler vol. 1, p. 166 (1953).

Experience

We should be careful to get out of an experience only the wisdom that is in it—and stop there; lest we be like the cat that sits down on a hot stove-lid. She will never sit down on a hot stove-lid again—and that is well; but also she will never sit down on a cold one anymore.

Mark Twain

Experience

We should be careful to get out of an experience only the wisdom that is in it—and stop there; lest we be like the cat that sits down on a hot stove-lid. She will never sit down on a hot stove-lid again—and that is well; but also she will never sit down on a cold one anymore.

Mark Twain (Samuel L. Clemens), Following the Equator vol. 1 (vol. 5 of The Writings of Mark Twain), chapter 11, epigraph, p. 125 (1897, reprinted 1968).

Experience

When nations grow old, the arts grow cold,

And commerce settles on every tree.

What is the price of experience?

do men buy it for a song?

Or wisdom for a dance in the street?

No, it is bought with the price

Of all that a man hath: his house, his wife,

his children.

William Blake

Exploration

We shall not cease from exploration

And the end of all our exploring

Will be to arrive where we started

And know the place for the first time.

T. S. Eliot, "Little Gidding," last stanza, Collected Poems, 1909-1962, p. 208 (1963). Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara was asked what major changes he would have made in United States policies in Vietnam during the previous week. He responded it was not yet an appropriate time to be talking with hindsight and then quoted the lines above to answer the question.—"Meet the Press" television program, February 4, 1968, transcript, p. 15.

Extremism

Extremism in the defense of liberty is no vice. Moderation in the pursuit of justice is no virtue.

Senator Barry Goldwater, speech accepting nomination for president, Republican national convention, San Francisco, California, July 16, 1964.—Congressional Record, July 21, 1964, vol. 110, p. 16388.

Senator Goldwater comments that the remark was not original with him: "In fact, I believe Cicero used it in some form at one time, and I have been able to trace it rather faintly back to some of the early Greeks so, while I was very proud of the fact that I made the speech, it's certainly not original."

Extremism

It seems to me that it is these extremists who are advocating a soft approach. Their oversimplifications and their baseless generalizations reflect the softness of those who cannot bear to face the burdens of a continuing struggle against a powerful and resourceful enemy. A truly tough approach, in my judgment, is one which accepts the challenge of communism with the courage and determination to meet it with every instrumentality of foreign policy—political and economic as well as military, and with the willingness to see the struggle through as far into the future as may be necessary. Those who seek to meet the challenge—or, in reality, to evade it—by bold adventures abroad and witch hunts at home are the real devotees of softness—the softness of seeking escape from painful realities by resort to illusory panaceas.

Senator J. William Fulbright, "Public Policy and Military Responsibility," speech at the opening session of the National War College and the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, Washington, D.C., August 21, 1961, Congressional Record, vol. 107, p. 16444. He was referring to radicals of the right.

Extremism

Summum ius summa iniuria.

Extreme [legal] justice is extreme injustice.

Anonymous Latin

Legal maxim cited by Cicero,

De Officiis 1.10.33

Facts

A single fact will often spoil an interesting argument.

Penny Press

Facts

Facts are stupid until brought into connection with some general law.

Louis Agassiz

Facts

Facts are to the mind what food is to the body…. The wisest in council, the ablest in debate, and the most agreeable companion in the commerce of human life, is that man who has assimilated to his understanding the greatest number of facts.

Edmund Burke

Facts

Facts have a cruel way of substituting themselves for fancies. There is nothing more remorseless, just as there is nothing more helpful, than truth.

William C. Redfield, secretary of commerce, address at Case School, Cleveland, Ohio, May 27, 1915.—Ashley H. Thorndike, Modern Eloquence, vol. 7, p. 392 (1936).

Facts

Facts that are not frankly faced have a habit of stabbing us in the back.

Sir Harold Bowen

Facts

Get your facts first, and then you can distort them as much as you please.

Mark Twain

Facts

I often wish…that I could rid the world of the tyranny of facts. What are facts but compromises? A fact merely marks the point where we have agreed to let investigation cease.

Author unknown, "On Having Known a Poet," The Atlantic Monthly, May 1906, p. 712.—The Home Book of American Quotations, ed. Bruce Bohle, p. 90 (1967), attributes this article to Bliss Carman, a frequent contributor.

Facts

I'm always fascinated by the way memory diffuses fact.

Diane Sawyer

Facts

No facts are to me sacred; none are profane; I simply experiment, an endless seeker with no Past at my back.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Essays: First Series (1841)

Facts

Now what I want is, Facts….Facts alone are wanted in life.

Charles Dickens (1812-1870)

Hard Times (1854), Mr. Gradgrind, Bk. i, Ch. I

Facts

Sit down before fact as a little child, be prepared to give up every preconceived notion, follow humbly wherever and to whatever abysses nature leads, or you shall learn nothing.

Thomas Henry Huxley, letter to Charles Kingsley, September 23, 1860.—Leonard Huxley, Life and Letters of Thomas Henry Huxley, vol. 1, p. 235 (1900, reprinted 1979).

Facts

The facts speak for themselves.

Demosthenes (384?-322? B.C.)

De Falsa Legatione, 81 (344 B.C.)

Facts

The power of administrative bodies to make finding of fact which may be treated as conclusive, if there is evidence both ways, is a power of enormous consequence. An unscrupulous administrator might be tempted to say "Let me find the facts for the people of my country, and I care little who lays down the general principles."

Chief Justice Charles Evans Hughes, "Important Work of Uncle Sam's Lawyers," American Bar Association Journal, April 1931, p. 238.This reprinted an address to the Federal Bar Association, Washington, D.C., February 11, 1931, where the chief justice spoke of the "extraordinary development of administrative agencies of the government and of the lawyer's part in making them work satisfactorily and also in protecting the public against bureaucratic excesses," according to the article's subtitle.

Facts

There are no eternal facts as there are no absolute truths.

Friedrich Nietzsche

Failure

A man's life is interesting primarily when he has failed—I well know. For it's a sign that he tried to surpass himself.

Georges Clemenceau, conversation with Jean Martet, June 1, 1928—Clemenceau, The Events of His Life as Told by Himself to His Former Secretary, Jean Martet, trans. Milton Waldman, chapter 30, p. 220 (1930).

Failure

Ambition is the last refuge of the failure.

Oscar Wilde, "Phrases and Philosophies for the Use of the Young," The Complete Works of Oscar Wilde, vol. 10, p. 213 (1923).

Failure

Edison failed 10,000 times before he made the electric light. Do not be discouraged if you fail a few times.

Napoleon Hill

Failure

Failure is more frequently from want of energy than from the want of capital.

Daniel Webster

Failure

I have no use for men who fail. The cause of their failure is no business of mine, but I want successful men as my associates.

John D. Rockefeller.

—Silas Hubbard, John D. Rockefeller and His Career,

p. 72 (1904). Hubbard states that this was

a favorite saying of Rockefeller's.

Failure

If you have a fall—mental, moral, or physical—pick yourself up and start over again immediately. If you do, in the long run life won't beat you.

John J. Pershing

Failure

It is hard to fail, but it is worse never to have tried to

succeed.

Theodore Roosevelt, governor of New York, speech before the Hamilton Club, Chicago, Illinois, April 10, 1899.—The Strenuous Life (vol. 13 of The Works of Theodore Roosevelt, national ed.), chapter 1, p. 320 (1926).

Failure

It is hard to fail, but it is worse never to have tried to succeed.

Theodore Roosevelt

Failure

Never give up on a man until he has failed at something he likes.

Lewis E. Lawes

Failure

Not failure but low aim is often our greatest sin.

James Russell Lowell

Failure

Not failure, but low aim, is crime.

James Russell Lowell, "For an Autograph," stanza 5, The Writings of James Russell Loivell, vol. 9, p. 175 (1890).

Failure

Our greatest glory consists not in never failing, but in rising every time we fall.

Oliver Goldsmith

Failure

The man who tries to do something and fails is infinitely better than he who tries to do nothing and succeeds.

Lloyd Jones

Failure

There are ten weakness against which most of us guard ourselves. One of these is the habit of trying to reap before we have sown, and the other nine are all wrapped up in the one practice of creating alibis to cover every mistake made.

Napoleon Hill

Failure

There is no failure except in no longer trying.

Elbert Hubbard

Failure

There is no such thing as accidental failure. All failure is at least half imposed.

Author Unknown

Failure

There is only one failure in life possible, and that is not to be true to the best one knows.

George Eliot

Failure

We learn wisdom from failure much more than from success. We often discover what will do by finding out what will not do; and probably he who never made a mistake never made a discovery.

Samuel Smiles

Faith

"Be assured that he who shall always walk faithfully in His presence, always ready to give Him an account of all his actions, shall never be separated from Him by consenting to sin." To one hoping that he would live to do great service at the Council of Lyons—"I have begged of God, as the greatest favour, to die a simple religious man, and I now thank Him for it."

St. Thomas Aquinas

Alban Butle

Faith

'Tis well averred, a scientific faith's absurd.

Robert Browning

Easter Day.

Faith

A friend once wrote: "Give me your faith, not your doubts."

Author Unknown

Faith

Action and faith enslave thought, both of them in order not to be troubled or inconvenienced by reflection, criticism, and doubt.

Henri Frederic Amiel

Faith

…in God I have put my trust: I will not fear what flesh can do unto me.

Psalms 56:4

Faith

All I have seen teaches me to trust the Creator for all I have not seen.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Faith

All the strength and force of man comes from his faith in things unseen. He who believes is strong; he who doubts is weak. Strong convictions precede great actions.

James F. Clarke

Faith

An old colored brother is said to have finished his prayer with words like these: 'And now good Lord; I know that you and ain't goen to let nothing come to me that me and you together can't handle.'

Author Unknown

Faith

And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.

The Bible, Matthew 17:20.

Faith

Cast thy bread upon the waters: for thou shalt find it after many days.

The Bible, Ecclesiastes 11:1.

Faith

Do you sometimes think, 'If I could just see Christ. If I could meet him. If I could talk to him personally, then this life would be easier.' But you have seen him. You have met him. You have talked to him personally. This knowledge, believed in faith, can make life easier.

Author Unknown

Faith

Down in adoration falling,

Lo! the sacred Host we hail;

Lo! o'er ancient forms departing,

Newer rites of grace prevail;

Faith for all defects supplying,

Where the feeble senses fail.

St. Thomas Aquinas

Pange, Lingua (hymn for Vespers on the Feast of Corpus Christi), st. 5 (Tantum Ergo)

Faith

Faith in the ability of a leader is of slight service unless it be united with faith in his justice.

George W. Goethals

Faith

Faith is a gift, but it is given to those who want it, and seek for it and live for it.

Author Unknown

Faith

Faith is a lamp in the hands of men. If it is never lighted, the world is seldom aware that they have passed.

Douglas Meador

Faith

Faith is building on what you know is here, so you can reach what you know is there.

Cullen Hightower

Faith

Faith is love taking the form of aspiration.

William Ellery Channing

Faith

Faith is not a sense, nor sight, nor reason, but taking God at His work.

A. B. Evans

Faith

Faith is that strengthening power within

Urging me on my way,

Teaching me all that I must know,

Helping to obey.

Faith is that strengthening power within

Lighting the road I trod,

Helping me know which way to go,

Pointing the way to God.

Author Unknown

Faith

Faith is the vision of the heart; it sees God in the dark as well as in the day.

Author Unknown

Faith

Faith is what makes you feel the comfort of the hearth while you're chopping the wood.

Frank A. Clark

Faith

Faith means belief in something concerning which doubt is theoretically possible.

William James

Faith

Faith must trample under foot all reason, sense, and understanding.

Martin Luther

Faith

Faith without works is like a bird without wings, though she may hop about on earth, she will never fly to heaven. But when both are joined together, then doth the soul mount up to her eternal rest.

J. Beaumont

Faith

Faith, n. Belief without evidence in what is told by one who speaks, without knowledge, of things without parallel.

Ambrose Bierce

Faith

Feed your faith and your doubts will starve to death.

Author Unknown

Faith

Give me where to stand, and I will move the earth.

Archimedes

From Pappus of Alexandria, Collectio, VIII, prop. 10, sec. 11

Faith

He wears his faith but as the fashion of his hat.

William Shakespeare

Much Ado About Nothing, I, i, 76

Faith

I believe in Christ as I believe in the rising sun—not that I can see it, but that by it I can see everything.

Author Unknown

Faith

I had to set limits to knowledge in order to make place for faith.

Immanuel Kant

Faith

I hear the message, but my faith is weak: miracle is faith's dearest child.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832)

Faust (1806)

Faith

I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year, 'Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown.' And the man replied, 'Go forth in the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God, which shall be to you better than a light and safer than a known way.'

Author Unknown

Faith

I would rather walk with God in the dark than go alone in the light.

Mary Gardiner Brajharel

Faith

If a scholar have not faith [in his principles], how shall he take a firm hold of things?

Mencius

Book VI, 2:12

Faith

If the work of God could be comprehended by reason, it would be no longer wonderful, and faith would have no merit if reason provided proof.

Pope Gregory I

Faith

In this faith I will to live and die.

Francois Villon

Le Grand Testament, Ballade de l'Homage a Notre Dame

Faith

Is he alone who has courage on his right hand and faith on his left hand?

Charles Lindbergh

Faith

Just in ratio as knowledge increases, faith diminishes.

Thomas Carlyle

Faith

Look with favor upon a bold beginning.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Georgics, I, 40

Faith

Man prefers to believe what he prefers to be true.

Francis Bacon

Faith

Man worships not himself, but his Maker; and the liberty of conscience which he claims is not for the service of himself, but of his God.

Thomas Paine

Faith

Mine is good faith that will yield to none, and says without reproach, and unadorned simplicity, and blushing modesty.

Ovid [Publius Ovidius Naso]

Amores, I, iii, 13

Faith

Observe good faith and justice toward all nations.

George Washington

Faith

On a new gravestone in England right after World War Two:'There is not enough darkness in all of the world to put out the light of one small candle.

Author Unknown

Faith

Our doubts are traitors; and make us lose the good we oft might win; by fearing the attempt.

William Shakespeare

Faith

Ours is not to wonder why,

Ours is but to do or die.

Author Unknown

Faith

POSITIVE ATTITUDE

If you think you are beaten, you are.

If you think you dare, you don't.

If you'd like to win but think you can't,

It's almost a cinch you won't.

Life's battles don't always go

To the stronger or faster man.

But soon or late the man who wins

Is the one who thinks he can.

Author Unknown

Faith

Question with boldness even the existence of God; because, if there be one, he must approve of the homage of reason than that of blindfolded fear.

Thomas Jefferson

Faith

The only faith that wears well and holds its color in all weathers is that which is woven of conviction and set with the sharp mordant of experience.

James Russell Lowell

Faith

The Universe is neither centered on the sun or the Earth, it is centered on God.

Alfred Noyes

Faith

There are some who forget that the laws of the spiritual world are no less flexible and inviolable than those of the physical world; that conduct is everything; and that the faith which saves; and which; working by love; makes conduct; is something much deeper and more substantial than the muttering of an unfelt creed; or than the melancholy presumption that to think ourselves saved is by itself a passport into the everlasting habitations.

Bishop Thorold

Faith

There comes a time for all of us

When we must say good-bye,

Can never, never die,

Although the curtain falls at last

Is that a cause to grieve?

The future's fairer than the past

If only we believe

And trust in God's eternal care—

So when the Master calls

Let's say that life is still more fair

Although the curtain falls.

Author Unknown

Faith

They conquer who believe they can.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Faith

To believe only possibilities is not faith but mere Philosophy.

Sir Thomas Browne

Faith

Understanding is the reward of faith. Therefore seek not to understand that thou mayest believe, but believe that thou mayest understand.

St. Augustine

Faith

Unthread the rude eye of rebellion,

And welcome home again discarded faith.

William Shakespeare

King John, V, iv, 11

Faith

Who breaks his faith, no faith is held with him.

Guillaume de Salluste, Seigneur Du Bartas

Divine Weeks and Works, Second Week, Third Day, pt. 2

Faith

Without faith a man can do nothing. But faith can stifle all science.

Henri Frederic Amiel

Journal, February 7, 1872.

Faith

You call for faith: I show you doubt, to prove that faith exists.

The more of doubt, the stronger faith, I say, if faith o'ercomes doubt.

Robert Browning

Bishop Blougram's Apology.

Faith

Youth without faith is a day without sun.

Oneida

Falsity

A falsehood once received from a famed writer becomes traditional to posterity.

John Dryden

Falsity

A liar needs a good memory.

Quintilian

Falsity

A thing is not necessarily true because badly uttered, nor false because spoken magnificently.

St. Augustine

Falsity

And after all what is a lie? 'Tis but the truth in masquerade.

George Gordon, Lord Byron

Falsity

Any fool can tell the truth, but it requires a man of some sense to know how to lie well.

Samuel Butler

Falsity

Falsehood has a perennial spring.

Edmund Burke

Speech on American Taxation, 1774.

Falsity

Fraud and falsehood only dread examination. Truth invites it.

Thomas Cooper

Falsity

I am different from Washington; I have a higher, grander standard of principle. Washington could not lie. I can lie, but I won't.

Mark Twain

Falsity

The sun no longer shows

His face; and treason sows

His secret seeds that no man can detect;

Fathers by their children are undone;

The brother would the brother cheat;

And the cowled monk is a deceit…

Might is right, and justice there is none.

Walther Von Der Vogelweide

Millennium

Falsity

Whatever is only almost true is quite false, and among the most dangerous of errors, because being so near truth, it is the more likely to lead astray.

Henry Ward Beecher

Fame

All the fame I look for in life is to have lived it quietly.

Michel de Montaigne

Fame

Censure is the tax a man pays to the public for being eminent.

Swift

Fame

Even the best things are not equal to their fame.

Henry David Thoreau

Fame

Fame comes only when deserved and then it is as inevitable as destiny, for it is destiny.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Fame

Fame has also this great drawback, that if we pursue it we must direct our lives in such a way as to please the fancy of men, avoiding what they dislike and seeking what is pleasing to them.

Baruch Spinoza

Fame

Fame is no plant that grows on mortal soil.

John Milton

Lycidas, 78

Fame

Fame is the spur that the clear spirit doth raise

(That last infirmity of noble mind).

John Milton

Fame

Fame, if not double-faced, is double-mouthed,

And with contrary blast proclaims most deeds;

On both his wings, one black, the other white,

Bears greatest names in his wild airy flight.

John Milton

Samson Agonistes, 971

Fame

He who pursues fame at the risk of losing his self in not a scholar.

Chuang Tzu

The Great Sumpreme

Fame

I owe my fame only to myself.

Pierre Corneille

Poesies Diverses, 23

Fame

If fame is to come only after death, I am in no hurry for it.

Marcus Valerius Martial

Fame

In short, whoever you may be,

To this conclusion you'll agree,

When everyone is somebodee,

Then no one's anybody!

W. S. Gilbert

Fame

May the countryside and the gliding valley streams content me. Lost to fame, let me love river and woodland.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Georgics, II, 485

Fame

My advice to a young man seeking deathless fame would be to espouse an unpopular cause and devote his life to it.

George William Curtis (1824-1892)

"Wendell Phillips"

Fame

No true and permanent Fame can be founded except in labors which promote the happiness of mankind.

Charles Sumner

Fame

Notoriety may be achieved in a narrow sphere, but fame demands for its evidence a more distant and prolonged reverberation.

James Russell Lowell

Fame

Passion for fame: a passion which is the instinct of all great souls.

Edmund Burke

Fame

The actor's popularity is evanescent; applauded today, forgotten tomorrow.

Edwin Forrest

Fame

The desire for glory clings even to the best men longer that any other passion.

Caius Cornelius Tacitus

Histories, IV, 6

Fame

There is no defense against reproach but obscurity; it is a kind of concomitant to greatness, as satires and invectives were an essential part of a Roman triumph.

Addison

Fame

Therefore the fame of her excellence will never perish, and the immortals will fashion among earthly men a gracious song in honor of faithful Penelope.

Homer

The Odyssey, XXIV, 196

Fame

Worldly renown is naught but a breath of wind, which now comes this way and that, and changes name because it changes quarter.

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy. Purgatorio, Canto XI, 100

Familiarity

Familiarity breeds contempt—and children.

Mark Twain

Family

A family without a government is like a house without a roof, exposed to every wind that blows.

M. Henry

Family

A happy family is but an earlier heaven.

Sir John Bowring

Family

A married man with a family will do anything for money.

Charles de Talleyrand

Family

Great families of yesterday we show, and lords whose parents were the Lord knows who.

Daniel Defoe

Family

Happy are the families where the government of parents is the reign of affection; and the obedience of the children is the submission of love.

Author Unknown

Family

He that hath wife and children hath given hostages to fortune.

Francis Bacon

Family

He that hath wife and children hath given hostages to fortune; for they are impediments to great enterprises, either of virtue or mischief.

Francis Bacon

Of Marriage and Single Life.

Family

I would see a little Torquatus, stretching his baby hands from his mother's lap, smile a sweet smile at his father with lips half parted.

Gaius Valerius Catullus

Carmina, LXI, 209

Family

In a united family, happiness springs of itself.

Chinese Proverb

Family

My father was a Creole, his father a Negro, and his father a monkey; my family, it seems begins where yours left off.

Alexandre Dumas, "The Elder" (1803-1870)

Attributed reply to question "Who was your father?"

Family

Some people seem compelled by unkind fate to parental servitude for life. There is no form of penal servitude much worse than this.

Samuel Butler

Family

The happiest moments of my life have been the few which I have passed at home in the bosom of my family.

Thomas Jefferson

Family

The pleasant converse of the fireside; the simple songs of the home; the words of encouragement as I bend over my school tasks; the kiss as I lie down to rest; the patient bearing with the freaks of my restless nature; the gentle counsels mingled with reproofs and approval; the sympathy that meets and assuages every sorrow and sweetens every success—all these return to me amid the responsibilities which press upon me now; and I feel as if I had once lived in heaven and; straying; had lost my way.

J. G. Holland

Family

The root of the kingdom is in the state. The root of the state is in the family. The root of the family is in the person of its head.

Mencius

Family

The whole family of pride and ignorance are incestuous, and mutually beget each other.

Charles Caleb Colton (1780-1832)

The Lacon (1829)

Family

There are three things which are unfilial, and to have no posterity is the greatest of them.

Mencius

Book IV, 1:26.1

Family

This expression of ours, "Father of a family."

Pliny the Younger

Letters, V, 19

Family

When I was a boy of fourteen, my father was so ignorant I could hardly stand to have the old man around. But when I got to be twenty-one, I was astonished at how much he had learned in seven years.

Mark Twain

Fanaticism/Fanatics

Nothing great is ever done without fanaticism. Fanaticism is religion: and the 18th century philosophes who decried the former actually overthrew the latter. Fanaticism is faith, the essence of

faith, burning faith, the faith that works miracles. Religion is a relative conception, a thing invented by man—an idea, in sum; the other is feeling…

Gustave Flaubert (1821-1880)

Letters

Fanaticism/Fanatics

The worst vice of the fanatic is his sincerity.

Oscar Wilde

Fanaticism/Fanatics

There is only one step from fanaticism to barbarism.

Denis Diderot (1713-1784)

Essai sur le mérite de la vertu (1745)

Farewells

Forever, and forever, farewell, Cassius!

If we do meet again, why, we shall smile;

If not, why then, this parting was well made.

William Shakespeare

Julius Caesar, V, i, 117

Farms/Farming

Ah too fortunate farmers, if they knew their own good fortune!

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Georgics, II, 458

Farms/Farming

O farmers, pray that your summers be wet and your winters clear.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Georgics, I, 100

Farms/Farming

Of all occupations from which gain is secured, there is none better than agriculture, nothing more productive, nothing sweeter, nothing more worthy of a free man.

Cicero

De Officiis

Farms/Farming

See these inglorious Cincinnati swarm,

Farmers of war, dictators of the farm;

Their ploughshare was the sword in hireling hands,

Their fields manured by gore of other lands;

Safe in their barns, these Sabine tillers sent

Their brethren out to battle—why? for rent!

Lord Byron

The Age of Bronze, 1823.

Farms/Farming

The agricultural population, says Cato, produces the bravest men, the most valiant soldiers, and a class of citizens the least given of all to evil designs.

Pliny the Elder

Natural History, XVIII, 26

Farms/Farming

We have plowed the seas.

Simon Bolivar

(translated by T. R. Ybarra.)

Fashion

Fashion is only the attempt to realize art in living forms and social intercourse.

Oliver Wendell Holmes

Fathers/Fatherhood

Fatherhood is pretending the present you love the most is the soap-on-the-rope.

Bill Cosby

Fathers/Fatherhood

One father is more than a hundred schoolmasters.

George Herbert

Jacula Prudentum, 686

Faults

A man must have his faults.

Gaius Petronius [Petronius Arbiter]

Satyricon, 45

Faults

A man's defects are the faults of his time while his virtues are his own.

Johann W. von Goethe

Faults

And oftentimes excusing of a fault

Doth make the fault the worse by the excuse.

William Shakespeare

King John, IV, ii, 30

Faults

Be to her virtues very kind,

Be to her faults a little blind.

Matthew Prior

Faults

Conceal a flaw, and the world will imagine the worst.

Martial [Marcus Valerius Martialis]

Epigrams, III, 42

Faults

Condemn the fault, and not the act of it?

William Shakespeare

Measure for Measure, II, ii, 37

Faults

Don't find fault, find a remedy.

Henry Ford

Faults

His only fault is that he has no fault.

Pliny the Younger

Letters, IX, 26

Faults

If we had no faults we should not take so much pleasure in noting those of others.

Duc de la Rochefoucauld

Faults

O conscience, upright and stainless, how bitter a sting to thee is a little fault!

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy. Purgatorio, canto III, 8

Faults

Pride has a greater share than goodness of heart in the remonstrances we make to those who are guilty of faults; we reprove not so much with a view to correct them as to persuade them that we are exempt from those faults ourselves.

Duc de la Rochefoucauld

Faults

Quarrels would not last long if the fault were only on one side.

Francois, Duc de la Rochefoucauld

Reflections; or, Sentences and Moral Maxims, 496

Faults

The greatest weakness of all weaknesses is to fear too much to appear weak.

Jacques Benigne Bossuet

Politique Tiree de l'Ecriture Sainte

Faults

There are some faults which men readily admit, but others not so readily.

Epictetus

Discourses, II, 21

Faults

There's not the least thing can be said or done, but people will talk and find fault.

Miguel de Cervantes

Don Quixote, pt. I, II, 4, 70

Faults

We confess to little faults only to persuade ourselves that we have no great ones.

Francois, Duc de la Rochefoucauld

Reflections; or, Sentences and Moral Maxims, 327

Faults

When you have faults, do not fear to abandon them.

Confucius

Fear

A dead man cannot bite.

Pompey (Gnaeus Pompeius)

From Plutarch, Lives, Pompey, sec. 77

Fear

A feeble mind, conscious of its own feebleness, grows feeble under that very consciousness. As soon as the power of fear becomes known to it, there follows the fear of fear, and, on the first perturbation, reason abandons it.

Hector Berlioz

Quoted, N. Y. Times letter column, May 6, 1948.

Fear

A man who causes fear cannot be free from fear.

Epicurus

Fear

All my fears and cares are of this world; if there is another, an honest man has nothing to fear from it.

Robert Burns

Fear

An Arab folk tale relates that Pestilence once met a caravan upon the desert-way to Baghdad. "Why," asked the Arab chief, "must you hasten to Baghdad?"

"To take 5,000 lives," Pestilence replied.

Upon the way back from the city of the Caliphs, Pestilence and the caravan met again. "You deceived me," the chief said angrily. "Instead of 5,000 lives, you took 50,000!"

"Nay," said Pestilence. "Five thousand and not one more. It was Fear who killed the rest."

Maurice Duhamel

Fear

And they know neither sect nor idolatry, with the exception that all believe that the source of all power and goodness is in the sky, and they believe very firmly that I, with these ships and people, came from the sky, and in this belief they everywhere received me, after they had overcome their fear.

Christopher Columbus

Letter to the Sovereigns on the First Voyage, February 15-March

4, 1493

Fear

Cruelty is a tyrant, that is always attended with Fear.

Thomas Fuller (1654-1734)

Gnomologia (1732), No. 1213

Fear

Early and provident fear is the mother of safety.

Edmund Burke, speech on the petition of the Unitarians, House of Commons, May 11, 1792.—The Works of the Right Honorable Edmund Burke, vol. 7, p. 50 (1899).

Fear

Fear always springs from ignorance.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Fear

Fear cannot be without hope nor hope without fear.

Benedict Spinoza

Fear

Fear created the gods, boldness created kings.

Prosper Jaylot, Sieur de Crébillon (1674-1762)

Xerxes (1714)

Fear

Fear is always more painful to cowardice than death to true courage.

Sir Philip Sidney

Fear

Fear secretes acids; but love and trust are sweet juices.

Henry Ward Beecher

Fear

For as children tremble and fear everything in the blind darkness, so we in the light sometimes fear what is no more to be feared than the things children in the dark hold in terror and imagine will come true.

Lucretius [Titus Lucretius Carus]

De Rerum Natura, III, 87

Fear

God planted fear in the soul as truly as he planted hope and courage. Fear is a kind of bell, or gong, which rings the mind into quick life and avoidance upon the approach of danger. It is the soul's signal for rallying.

Henry Ward Beecher

Fear

He who strikes terror into others is himself in continual fear.

Claudian

Fear

If your fear that people will know, don't do it.

Chinese Proverb

Fear

It is not these well-fed long-haired men that I fear, but the pale and the hungry-looking.

Julius Caesar

From Plutarch, Lives, Antony, sec. 11

Fear

It made our hair stand up in panic fear.

Sophocles

Fear

Know then, O waiting and compassionate soul,

that is to fear which has the power to harm,

and nothing else is fearful even in Hell.

Dante (or Durante) Alighieri (1265-1321)

The Divine Comedy (C. 1307-1320): The Inferno (Tr. Ciardi Canto II)

Fear

Let me assert my firm belief that the only thing we have to fear is fear itself-nameless, unreasoning, unjustified terror which paralyzes needed efforts to convert retreat into advance.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt, inaugural address, March 4, 1933.—The Public Papers and Addresses of Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1933, p. 11 (1938).

Fear

Let them hate, so long as they fear.

Lucius Accius

Fear

Let us never negotiate out of fear. But let us never fear to negotiate.

President John F. Kennedy, inaugural address, January 20, 1961—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: John F Kennedy, 1961, p. 2.

Fear

No man who is in fear, or sorrow, or turmoil, is free, but whoever is rid of sorrows and fears and turmoil, that man is by the selfsame course rid also of slavery.

Epictetus (c. 50-120 A.D.)

Discourses

Fear

Nothing is so much to be feared as fear.

Henry David Thoreau

Fear

Nothing is so much to be feared as fear.

Henry David Thoreau, journal entry for September 7, 1851.—Thoreau, Journal, ed. Bradford Torrey, vol. 2 (vol. 8 of The Writings of Henry David Thoreau), p. 468 (1906, reprinted 1968).

Fear

Nothing is terrible except fear itself.

Francis Bacon

Fear

O friend, never strike sail to a fear! Come into port greatly, or sail with God the seas.

Ralph Waldo Emerson, "Heroism," Essays: First Series (vol. 2 of The Complete Works of Ralph Waldo Emerson), pp. 259-60 (1903).

Fear

Of all base passions, fear is most accurs'd.

William Shakespeare

King Henry VI, I, V, ii, 18

Fear

Only in a hut built for the moment can one live without fears.

Kamo No Chomei

Hojoki (An Account of My Hut)

Fear

She fear'd no danger, for she knew no sin.

John Dryden

The Hind And The Panther, I, 4

Fear

The concessions of the weak are the concessions of fear.

Edmund Burke

Fear

The fear of some divine and supreme powers keeps men in obedience.

Robert Burton

Anatomy of Melancholy, III, 3, 1, 2

Fear

The only thing I am afraid of is fear.

Arthur Wellesley, Duke of Wellington

Fear

The worst sorrows in life are not its losses and misfortunes, but its fears.

A. C. Benson

Fear

There is a courageous wisdom; there is also a false, reptile prudence, the result not of caution but of fear.

Attributed to Edmund Burke. Unverified.

Fear

We are afraid of truth, afraid of fortune, afraid of death, and afraid of each other. Our age yields no great and perfect persons…. Our housekeeping is mendicant, our arts, our occupations, our marriages, our religion we have not chosen, but society has chosen for us. We are parlor soldiers. We shun the rugged battle of fate, where strength is born.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Essays: First Series (1841)

Fear

We must get rid of fear; we cannot act at all till then. A man's acts are slavish, not true but specious; his very thoughts are false, he thinks too as a slave and coward, till he has got fear under his feet.

Thomas Carlyle

Heroes and Hero-Worship.

Fear

We must not fear fear.

St. Francois de Sales (1567-1622)

Letters to Persons in the World, 4, 12

Fear

What if Amyntas is dark? Violets are dark, too, and hyacinths.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Elogues, X, 38

Fear

Whatever it is, I fear Greeks even when they bring gifts.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aeneid, II, 49

Fear

Who is all-powerful should fear everything.

Pierre Corneille

Horace, IV, 2

Fear

Whom they fear they hate.

Quintus Ennius

Thyestes. From Cicero, De Officiis II, 7

Feelings

Feelings are not like faucets you can turn on and off.

Richard Lessor

Feelings

I have learned that the head does not hear anything until the heart has listened. And what the heart knows today the head will understand tomorrow.

James Stevens

Femininity

Feminine logic is fallacious, shallow, inconsistent, irrelevant, capricious, transparent—and irrefutable.

Harold Coffin

Finances

It is a toss up whether it is worse to be old and bent or young and broke.

Author Unknown

Flag

Rally round the flag, boys—

Give it to the breeze!

That's the banner that we bore

On the land and seas.

Brave hearts are under it,

Let the traitors brag,

Gallant lads, fire away!

And fight for the flag.

Their flag is but a rag—

Ours is the true one;

Up with the Stars and Stripes!

Down with the new one!

Let our colors fly, boys—

Guard them day and night;

For victory is liberty,

And God will bless the right.

James T. Fields,

"The Stars and Stripes."—Florence Adams and Elizabeth McCarrick, Highdays & Holidays, pp. 182-83 (1927).

Flag

Your flag and my flag,

And how it flies today

In your land and my land

And half a world away!

Rose-red and blood-red

The stripes for ever gleam;

Snow-white and soul-white—

The good forefathers' dream;

Sky-blue and true-blue, with stars to gleam aright—

The gloried guidon of the day; a shelter through the night.

Wilbur D. Nesbit, "A Song for Flag Day," stanza 1, The Trail to Boyland, p. 96 (1904).

Flattery

Every woman is infallibly to be gained by every sort of flattery, and every man by one sort to other.

Lord Chesterfield

Flattery

Imitation is the sincerest of flattery.

Charles Colton

Flattery

Nothing is so great an instance of ill-manners as flattery. If you flatter all the company, you please none; if you flatter only one or two, you affront all the rest.

Jonathan Swift

Flattery

What soon grows old? Gratitudes.

Aristotle

From Diogenes Laertius, V, 18

Flying

According to the theory of aerodynamics, as may be readily demonstrated through wind tunnel experiments, the bumblebee is unable to fly. This is because the size, weight and shape of his body in relation to the total wingspread make flying impossible. But the bumblebee, being ignorant of these scientific truths, goes ahead and flies anyway—and makes a little honey every day.

Sign in a General Motors Corporation plant.—Ralph L. Woods, The Businessman's Book of Quotations, pp. 249-50 (1951)."Antoine Magnan, a French zoologist, in 1934 made some very careful studies of bumblebee flight and came to the conclusion that bumblebees cannot fly at all! Fortunately, the bumblebees never heard this bit of news and so went on flying as usual."—Ross E. Hutchins, Insects, p. 68 (1968). Magnan's 1934 work was Le Vol des Insectes (vol. 1 of La Locomotion Chez les Animaux).

Flying

Oh! I have slipped the surly bonds of Earth

And danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings;

Sunward I've climbed, and joined the tumbling mirth

of sun-split clouds,—and done a hundred things

You have not dreamed of—wheeled and soared and swung

High in the sunlit silence. Hov'ring there,

I've chased the shouting wind along, and flung

My eager craft through footless halls of air…

Up, up the long, delirious, burning blue

I've topped the wind-swept heights with easy grace

Where never lark nor ever eagle flew—

And, while with silent lifting mind I've trod

The high untrespassed sanctity of space,

Put out my hand, and touched the face of God.

John G. Magee, Jr., "High Flight," September 3, 1941.

Magee was born in Shanghai, China, of missionary parents—an American father and an English mother—and spoke Chinese before English. He was educated at Rugby school in England and at Avon Old Farms School in Connecticut. He won a scholarship to Yale, but instead joined the Royal Canadian Air Force in late 1940, trained in Canada, and was sent to Britain. He flew in a Spitfire squadron and was killed on a routine training mission on December 11, 1941. The sonnet above was sent to his parents written on the back of a letter which said, "I am enclosing a verse I wrote the other day. It started at 30,000 feet, and was finished soon after I landed." He also wrote of his course ending soon and of his then going on operations, and added, "I think we are very lucky as we shall just be in time for the autumn blitzes (which are certain to come)."

Magee's parents lived in Washington, D.C., at the time of his death, and the sonnet came to the attention of Librarian of Congress Archibald MacLeish. He acclaimed Magee the first poet of the War and included the poem in an exhibition of poems of "faith and freedom" at the Library of Congress in February 1942. The poem was then widely reprinted, and the R.C.A.F. distributed plaques with the words of the poem to all airfields and training stations.

The reprintings vary in punctuation, capitalization, and indentation from the original manuscript, which is in the Manuscript Division of the Library of Congress. Some portions are faded and difficult to read, but the version above follows Magee's as exactly as can be made out, following his pencilled note on another poem, "If anyone should want this please see that it is accurately copied, capitalized, and punctuated." Nearly all versions use "…even eagle," but to the editor's careful scrutiny, it was "ever" formed exactly like the preceding "never."

President Ronald Reagan quoted from the first and last lines in a televised address to the nation after the space shuttle Challenger exploded, January 28, 1986.—Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents, February 3, 1986, p. 105.

Food/Hunger

'Tis not the meat, but 'tis the appetite

Makes eating a delight.

Sir John Suckling

Fragmenta Aurea. Of Thee, Kind Boy, 3

Food/Hunger

A hungry stomach cannot hear.

Jean de la Fontaine

Fables, bk. IX, fable 17

Food/Hunger

No man can be a patriot on an empty stomach.

William Cowper

Food/Hunger

Principles have no real force except when one is well fed.

Mark Twain

Fools/Folly

A blockhead cannot come in, nor go away, nor sit, nor rise, nor stand, like a man of sense.

Bruyere

Fools/Folly

At times descretion should be thrown aside, and with the foolish we should play the fool.

Menander

Those Offered for Sale, fragment 421

Fools/Folly

But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire.

The Bible, Matthew 5:22.

Fools/Folly

Fools have been and always will be the majority of mankind.

Denis Diderot (1713-1784)

A Philosophical Conversation (1777)

Fools/Folly

Fools, they do not even know how much more is the half then the whole.

Hesiod

Ib. 40

Fools/Folly

He remains a fool his whole life long

Who loves not women, wine, and song.

Martin Luther

Attributed

Fools/Folly

Heaven and earth fight in vain against a dunce.

Schiller

Fools/Folly

I am two fools, I know,

For loving, and for saying so

In whining poetry.

John Donne

The Triple Fool, 1

Fools/Folly

I do not attack fools, but foolishness.

Jacques Du Lauren

Satires

Fools/Folly

Into a limbo large and broad, since called

The Paradise of Fools, to few unknown.

John Milton

Paradise Lost, III, 495

Fools/Folly

It ain't what a man don't know that makes him a fool, but what he does know that ain't so.

Josh Billings (Henry Wheeler Shaw)

Fools/Folly

Let a fool hold his tongue and he will pass for a sage.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 914

Fools/Folly

The best way in which to silence any friend of yours whom you know to be a fool is to induce him to hire a hall. Nothing chills pretense like exposure.

President Woodrow Wilson, remarks to the Motion Picture Board of Trade, New York City, January 27, 1916.—The Papers of Woodrow Wilson, ed. Arthur S. Link, vol. 36, p.17 (1981).

Fools/Folly

There are more fools than knaves in the world, else the knaves would not have enough to live upon.

Samuel Butler

Note-Books.

Fools/Folly

There never was any party, faction, sect, or cabal whatsoever, in which the most ignorant were not the most violent; for a bee is not a busier animal than a blockhead.

Pope

Fools/Folly

This was ever the world's distempered will:

Fools have always mocked and spurned the wise.

These shall be judged according to their lies.

Walther Von Der Vogelweide

Lament, st. 2

Fools/Folly

Those who wish to appear wise among fools, among the wise seem foolish.

Quintilian [Marcus Fabius Quintilianus]

De Institutione Oratoria, X, 7, 21

Fools/Folly

Twenty-seven millions, mostly fools.

Thomas Carlyle, Latter-Day Pamphlets, no. 6, p. 15 (1850).

Carlyle used this phrase several times in the pamphlet to refer to the citizens of Great Britain.

Champ Clark, referring to this remark added, "While the percentage of fools in this country is not so large, there are still enough to fatten the swindlers…. The percentage of fools in this country is not so great as Carlyle states it, but nevertheless it is quite large. "—Champ Clark, My barter Century of American Politics, p. 213 (1920). Clark was Speaker of the House from 1911-1919.

Fools/Folly

We assemble parliaments and councils, to have the benefit of their collected wisdom; but we necessarily have, at the same time, the inconvenience of their collected passions, prejudices, and private interests. By the help of these, artful men overpower their wisdom, and dupe its possessors; and if we may judge by the acts, arrêts, and edicts, all the world over, for regulating commerce, an assembly of great men is the greatest fool upon earth.

Benjamin Franklin, letter to Benjamin Vaughan, July 26, 1784.—The Writings of Benjamin Franklin, ed. Albert H. Smyth, vol. 9, p. 241 (1906).

Fools/Folly

What fools these mortals be.

Lucius Annaeus Seneca

Epistles, 1, 3

Fools/Folly

When we are born, we cry that we are come

To this great stage of fools.

William Shakespeare

King Lear, IV, vi, 187

Fools/Folly

You may fool all the people some of the time; you can even fool some of the people all the time; but you can't fool all of the people all the time.

Attributed to Abraham Lincoln.—Alexander K. McClure, "Abe" Lincoln's Yarns and Stories, p. 184 (1904).Many quotation books have also attributed this to Lincoln, and the sources given have varied. According to Roy R Basler ed., The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, vol. 3, p. 81 (1953), "Tradition has come to attribute to the Clinton [Illinois] speeches [September 2, 1858] one of Lincoln's most famous utterances—'You can fool all the people some of the time and some of the people all the time, but you cannot fool all the people all the time.'" But he goes on to say that the epigram and any references to it have not been located in Surviving Lincoln documents.

This remark has also been attributed to P. T. Barnum.

Fools/Folly

Young men think old men are fools, but old men know young men are fools.

George Chapman,

All Fools, act V, scene ii, lines 205-6, p. 87 (1968).

This was a common proverb which appeared

not only in Chapman's play, first published in 1605,

but in other works as well. See The Oxford Dictionary

of English Proverbs, pp. 927-28 (1970).

Fools/Folly

"Fool!" said my muse to me, "look in thy heart, and write."

Sir Philip Sidney

Astrophel and Stella

Fools/Folly

494. The fool, with all his other faults, has this also, he is always getting ready to live.

Epicurus (341-270 B.C.)

Fragments

[Emerson, Journals, Vol. 3: "We are always getting ready to live, but never living"]

Fools/Folly

Busy old fool, unruly Sun,

Why dost thou thus,

Through windows, and through curtains call on us?

Must go thy motions lovers' seasons run?

John Donne

The Sun Rising, 1

Fools/Folly

A fool must now and then be right by chance.

William Cowper

Fools/Folly

A learned fool is more foolish than an ignorant one.

Molière [Jean Baptiste Poquelin]

Les Femmes Savantes, IV, 3

Fools/Folly

A learned fool is one who has read everything, and simply remembered it.

Josh Billings

Fools/Folly

A little folly is desirable in him that will not be guilty of stupidity.

Michel Eyquem de Montaigne

Essays, III, 9

Fools/Folly

A prosperous fool is a grievous burden.

Aeschylus

Fools/Folly

Always the dullness of the fool is the whetstone of the wits.

William Shakespeare

As You Like It, I, ii, 59

Fools/Folly

An old doting fool, with one foot already in the grave.

Plutarch

Morals. Of the Training of Children

Fools/Folly

By dint of railing at idiots we run the risk of becoming idiots ourselves.

Gustave Flaubert

Fools/Folly

By their own follies they perished, the fools.

Homer

The Odyssey, I, 7

Fools/Folly

Every man is a d—- fool for at least five minutes every day; wisdom consists of not exceeding the limit.

Elbert Hubbard

Fools/Folly

Few of the many wise apothegms which have been uttered have prevented a single foolish action.

Thomas Babington Macaulay

Fools/Folly

Fools rush in where angels fear to tread.

Alexander Pope

Fools/Folly

He is a fool who leaves things close at hand to follow what is out of reach.

Plutarch

Morals. Of Garrulity

Fools/Folly

I have great faith in fools; self-confidence my friends call it.

Edgar Allan Poe

Fools/Folly

Let us be thankful for the fools. But for them the rest of us could not succeed.

Mark Twain

Fools/Folly

Most everyone seems to be willing to be a fool himself, but he can't bear to have anyone else be one.

Josh Billings

Fools/Folly

Now will I show myself to have more of the serpent than the dove; that is more knave than fool.

Christopher Marlowe

The Jew of Malta, act II, sc. 3

Fools/Folly

Obstinacy and heat in argument are surest proofs of folly. Is there anything so stubborn, obstinate, disdainful, contemplative, grave, serious, as an ass?

Michel de Montaigne

Fools/Folly

Poor Catullus, you should cease your folly.

Gaius Valerius Catullus

Carmina, VIII, 1

Fools/Folly

The best plan is to profit by the folly of others.

Pliny the Elder

Natural History, XVIII, 31

Fools/Folly

The fool and the wise man are equally harmless; it is the half-wise and the half-foolish who are most to be feared.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832)

Sprüche in Prosa

Fools/Folly

The wisest fool in Christendom.

Henri IV of France

Of James I of England; attributed to Henri IV or Sully

Fools/Folly

There is nothing by which men display their character so much as in what they consider ridiculous….Fools and sensible men are equally innocuous. It is in the half fools and the half wise that the great danger lies.

Johann W. von Goethe

Fools/Folly

There is perhaps no surer mark of folly, than to attempt to correct natural infirmities of those we love.

Henry Fielding (1707-1754)

Tom Jones (1749), Bk. II, ch. 7

Fools/Folly

This age thinks better of a gilded fool

Than of a threadbare saint in wisdom's school.

Thomas Heywood

Old Fortunatus

Fools/Folly

This fellow's wise enough to play the fool,

And to do that well craves a kind of wit.

William Shakespeare

Twelfth-Night, III, i, 68

Fools/Folly

To generalize is to be an idiot.

William Blake

Alexander Gilchrist, Life of William Blake, 1880.

Fools/Folly

Who lives without folly is not so wise as he thinks.

Francois, Duc de la Rochefoucauld

Reflections; or, Sentences and Moral Maxims, 209

Fools/Folly

You are a fool in four letters, my son.

Molière [Jean Baptiste Poquelin]

Tartuffe, I, 1

Fools/Folly

You must play the fool a little if you would not be thought wholly a fool….Every day I hear stupid people say things that are not stupid.

Michel de Montaigne

Force

"Force is but might," the teacher said—

"That definition's just."

The boy said nought but thought instead,

Remembering his pounded head:

"Force is not might but must!"

Ambrose Bierce

Force

All cruelty springs from weakness.

Seneca

Force

Covenants without swords are but words.

Thomas Hobbes

Force

Force and right are the governors of this world; force till right is ready.

Matthew Arnold

Force

Force is not a remedy.

John Bright

Speech, Birmingham, November 16, 1880.

Force

Force rules the world—not opinion; but it is opinion that makes use of force.

Blaise Pascal

Force

Force without wisdom falls of its own weight.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Odes, III, IV, 65

Force

Force, however, plays another role (other than that of a diabolical power) in history, a revolutionary role; that, in the words of Marx, it is the midwife of every old society which is pregnant with the new.

Friedrich Engels (1820-1895)

Anti-Duhring (1878), Pt. II

Force

From the forces that all creatures bind, who overcomes himself his freedom finds.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832)

Die Geheimnisse (1776)

Force

Justice without force is powerless; force without justice is tyrannical.

Blaise Pascal

Force

To a greater force, and to a better nature, you, free, are subject, and that creates the mind in you, which the heavens have not in their charge. Therefore if the present world go astray, the cause is in you, in you it is to be sought.

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy. Purgatorio, canto XVI, 79

Force

When one by force subdues men, they do not submit to him in heart. They submit, because their strength is not adequate to resist.

Mencius

Book II, 1:3.2

Force

Who overcomes by force hath overcome but half his foe.

John Milton

Foreign Policy

A man must first care for his own household before he can be of use to the state. But no matter how well he cares for his household, he is not a good citizen unless he also takes thought of the state. In the same way, a great nation must think of its own internal affairs; and yet it cannot substantiate its claim to be a great nation unless it also thinks of its position in the world at large.

Theodore Roosevelt, "Nationalism and International Relations," Social Justice and Popular Rule (vol. 17 of The Works of Theodore Roosevelt, national ed.), chapter 12, p. 108 (1926).

Foreign Policy

But much of what Mr. Wallace calls his global thinking is, no matter how you slice it, still "globaloney." Mr. Wallace's warp of sense and his woof of nonsense is very tricky cloth out of which to cut the pattern of a post-war world.

Representative Clare Boothe Luce, remarks in the House, February 9, 1943, Congressional Record, vol. 89, p. 761. It was in her maiden speech in the House that Mrs. Luce coined the term globaloney to describe then Vice President Henry Wallace's post-war theories.

Foreign Policy

By this I mean that a political society does not live to conduct foreign policy; it would be more correct to say that it conducts foreign policy in order to live.

George F. Kennan, "The Two Planes of International Reality," Realities of American Foreign Policy, p. 4 (1954).This was originally delivered as the first of the Stafford Little Lectures, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey, March 1954.

Foreign Policy

Every day, for example, politicians, of which there are plenty, swear eternal devotion to the ends of peace and security. They always remind me of the elder Holmes' apostrophe to a katydid: "Thou say'st an undisputed thing in such a solemn way." And every day statesmen, of which there are few, must struggle with limited means to achieve these unlimited ends, both in fact and in understanding. For the nation's purposes always exceed its means, and it is finding a balance between means and ends that is the heart of foreign policy and that makes it such a speculative, uncertain business.

Adlai E. Stevenson, Call to Greatness, p. 2 (1954).The quotation from Holmes is from "To an Insect," lines 7-8, The Complete Poetical Works of Oliver Wendell Holmes, p. 3 (1900).

Foreign Policy

I have come to a resolution myself as I hope every good citizen will, never again to purchase any article of foreign manufacture which can be had of American make be the difference of price what it may.

Thomas Jefferson, letter to B. S. Barton, February 26, 1815.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Andrew A. Lipscomb, vol. 19, p. 223 (1904).

Foreign Policy

If the establishment of an "unlimited" treaty power is to be the ultimate conclusion on this great question, it must be admitted that the incorporation of the treaty-making power into the Constitution of the United States was the introduction into our governmental citadel of a Trojan horse, whose armored soldiery, for years concealed within it, now step forth armed cap-…-pie, shameless in their act of deception, eager and ready to capture the citadel upon which they pretended to bestow their gift. If such construction be possible it would be of interest to know for what purpose the Tenth Amendment was ever demanded and incorporated into the Constitution.

Henry St. George Tucker, Limitations on the Treaty-Making Power p. 339, section 296 (1915).

Foreign Policy

Is this Nation stating it cannot afford to spend an additional $600 million to help the developing nations of the world become strong and free and independent—an amount less than this country's annual outlay for lipstick, face cream, and chewing gum?

President John F. Kennedy, remarks at the dinner of the Protestant Council of the City of New York, November 8, 1963.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: John F Kennedy, 1963, p. 842.

Foreign Policy

It is, therefore, with the sincerest pleasure I have observed on the part of the British government various manifestations of a just and friendly disposition towards us; we wish to cultivate peace and friendship with all nations, believing that course most conducive to the welfare of our own;, it is natural that these friendships should bear some proportion to the common interests of the parties.

Thomas Jefferson, letter to Sir John Sinclair July 31, 1816.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Andrew A. Lipscomb, vol. 15, p. 54 (1904).

Foreign Policy

Now this problem of the adjustment of man to his natural resources, and the problem of how such things as industrialization and urbanization can be accepted without destroying the traditional values of a civilization and corrupting the inner vitality of its life—these things are not only the problems of America; they are the problems of men everywhere. To the extent that we Americans become able to show that we are aware of these problems, and that we are approaching them with coherent and effective ideas of our own which we have the courage to put into effect in our own lives, to that extent a new dimension will come into our relations with the peoples beyond our borders, to that extent, in fact, the dreams of these earlier generations of Americans who saw us as leaders and helpers to the peoples of the world at large will begin to take on flesh and reality.

George F. Kennan, "The Unifying Factor," Realities of American Foreign Policy, p. 116 (1954). This was originally delivered as the fourth of the Stafford Little Lectures, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey, March 1954.

Foreign Policy

Our idea is to create a situation in which those lands to which we have obligations or in which we have interests, if they are ready to fight a fire, should be able to count on us to furnish the hose and water.

President Richard M. Nixon, on-the-record interview with C. L. Sulzberger March 8, 1971.—The New York Times, March 10, 1971, p. 14.

Foreign Policy

Peace, commerce, and honest friendship, with all nations—entangling alliances with none.

President Thomas Jefferson, inaugural address, March 4, 1801.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Andrew A. Lipscomb, vol. 3, p. 321 (1904).This thought had been similarly expressed earlier in his letter to Edward Carrington, December 21, 1787: "I know too that it is a maxim with us, and I think it a wise one, not to entangle ourselves with the affairs of Europe."—The Papers of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Julian P Boyd, vol. 12, p. 447 (1955).

George Washington did not use any form of "entangle," but shared a like political view in his letters to Patrick Henry, October 9, 1795: "My ardent desire is…to keep the U States free from political connexions with every other Country. To see that they may be independent of all, and under the influence of none," and to Gouverneur Morris, December 22, 1795: "My policy has been…to be upon friendly terms with, but independent of, all the nations of the earth. To share in the broils of none."—Writings of George Washington, ed. John C. Fitzpatrick, vol. 34, pp. 335, 401 (1940).

Foreign Policy

The challenges before us are monumental. But it is not every generation that is given the opportunity to shape a new international order. If the opportunity is missed, we shall live in a world of chaos and danger. If it is realized we will have entered an era of peace and progress and justice. But we can realize our hopes only as a united people. Our challenge—and its solution—lies in ourselves. Our greatest foreign policy problem is our divisions at home. Our greatest foreign policy need is national cohesion and a return to the awareness that in foreign policy we are all engaged in a common national endeavor.

Henry A. Kissinger, secretary of state, speech to Boston World Affairs Council, Boston, Massachusetts, March 11, 1976.—Excerpts of official text, The New York Times, March 12, 1976, p. 4.

Foreign Policy

The desire to preserve our country from the calamities and ravages of war, by cultivating a disposition, and pursuing a conduct, conciliatory and friendly to all nations, has been sincerely entertained and faithfully followed. It was dictated by the principles of humanity, the precepts of the gospel, and the general wish of our country, and it was not to be doubted that the Society of Friends, with whom it is a religious principle, would sanction it by their support.

President Thomas Jefferson, letter to Messrs. Thomas, Ellicot, and others, November 13, 1807.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. H. A. Washington, vol. 8, p. 118 (1871).

Foreign Policy

The fundamental question for the United States is how it can cooperate to help meet the basic needs of the people of the hemisphere despite the philosophical disagreements it may have with the nature of particular regimes. It must seek pragmatic ways to help people without necessarily embracing their governments. It should recognize that diplomatic relations are merely practical conveniences and not measures of moral judgment.

Nelson A. Rockefeller, governor of New York, "Quality of Life in the Americas," text of the Rockefeller Mission report, The Department of State Bulletin, December 8, 1969, p. 515.Rockefeller was appointed by President Nixon to head a Latin American mission.

Foreign Policy

The Government of the United States is not entitled to affirm as a universal proposition, with reference to a number of independent States for whose conduct it assumes no responsibility, that its interests are necessarily concerned in whatever may befall those States simply because they are situated in the Western Hemisphere.

Lord Salisbury, letter to Sir Julian Pauncefote, November 26, 1895.—U.S. Department of State, Papers Relating to the Foreign Relations of the United States…1895, part 1, p. 566 (1896).Lord Salisbury was objecting to U.S. Secretary of State Richard Olney's interpretation of the Monroe Doctrine in Venezuela's boundary dispute with Great Britain. This interpretation, which maintained U.S. right to intervene in international disputes in the Western Hemisphere, is known as the Olney Corollary to the Monroe Doctrine.

Foreign Policy

The history of human conduct does not warrant that exalted opinion of human virtue which would make it wise in a nation to commit interests of so delicate and momentous a kind as those which concern its intercourse with the rest of the world to the sole disposal of a magistrate, created and circumstanced, as would be a President of the United States.

Alexander Hamilton, The Federalist, ed. Benjamin F. Wright, no. 75, p. 477 (1961).

Foreign Policy

The purpose of foreign policy is not to provide an outlet for our own sentiments of hope or indignation; it is to shape real events in a real world.

President John F. Kennedy, address at the Mormon Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Utah, September 26, 1963.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: John F Kennedy, 1963, p. 736.

Foreign Policy

There is a homely old adage which runs: "Speak softly and carry a big stick; you will go far." If the American Nation will speak softly, and yet build, and keep at a pitch of the highest training, a thoroughly efficient navy, the Monroe Doctrine will go far.

President Theodore Roosevelt,

speech, Chicago, Illinois, April 2, 1903.

Presidential Addresses and State Papers, part 1

(vol. 13 of The Works of Theodore Roosevelt,

executive ed.), p. 266 (n.d.).

In America and the World War chapter 2, p. 24,

he referred to "the homely proverb: 'Speak softly and carry a big stick.'"

The Works of Theodore Roosevelt, national ed., vol. 18 (1926).

In the last chapter of Theodore Roosevelt, An Autobiography, p. 524

(vol. 20 of Works, national ed.), he says: "The only safe rule is to promise little,

and faithfully to keep every promise; to 'speak softly and carry a big stick.'"

Foreign Policy

To me "bipartisan foreign policy" means a mutual effort, under our indispensable two-Party system, to unite our official voice at the water's edge so that America speaks with maximum authority against those who would divide and conquer us and the free world. It does not involve the remotest surrender of free debate in determining our position. On the contrary, frank cooperation and free debate are indispensable to ultimate unity. In a word, it simply seeks national security ahead of partisan advantage. Every foreign policy must be totally debated (and I think the record proves it has been) and the "loyal opposition" is under special obligation to see that this occurs.

Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg, The Private Papers of Senator Vandenberg, ed. Arthur H. Vandenberg, Jr., pp. 552-53 (1952).The phrase "his majesty's opposition" was coined by John Cam Hobhouse, later Lord Broughton, in the House of Commons, April 10, 1826.—Parliamentary Debates (Hansard), vol. 15, col. 135. It is usually heard now as "loyal opposition." Bergen Evans, Dictionary of Quotations, p. 499, no. 9 (1968), notes that Hobhouse said he was praised by Canning, but at the time Canning merely repeated the phrase. The praise came from the Rt. Hon. George Tierney: " [Hobhouse] could not have invented a better phrase to designate us…for we are certainly to all intents and purposes, a branch of his majesty's government."—Op. cit., col. 145.

Foreign Policy

To those peoples in the huts and villages of half the globe struggling to break the bonds of mass misery, we pledge our best efforts to help them help themselves, for whatever period is required—not because the communists may be doing it, not because we seek their votes, but because it is right. If a free society cannot help the many who are poor, it cannot save the few who are rich.

President John F. Kennedy, inaugural address, January 20, 1961.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: John F Kennedy, 1961, p. 1.

Foreign Policy

We have noted that the federal Constitution put the permanent control of the nation's foreign interests in the hands of the President and the Senate, which to some extent frees the Union's general policy from direct and daily popular control. One should not therefore assert without qualification that American democracy controls the state's external affairs.

Alexis de Tocqueville, Democracy in America, ed. J. P Mayer, trans. George Lawrence, vol. I, part 2, chapter 5, p. 226 (1969). Originally published in 1835-1840.

Foreign Policy

We have tried to make it clear that the United States is not just an old cow that gives more milk the more it is kicked in the flanks.

Dean Rusk, secretary of state, testimony, May 4, 1967.—Foreign Assistance Act of 1967, hearings before the Committee on Foreign Affairs, House of Representatives, 90th Congress, 1st session, part 4, p. 844 (1967).

Foreign Policy

Wherever the standard of freedom and independence has been or shall be unfurled, there will her [America's] heart, her benedictions and her prayers be. But she goes not abroad in search of monsters to destroy. She is the well-wisher to the freedom and independence of all. She is the champion and vindicator only of her own. She will recommend the general cause, by the countenance of her voice, and the benignant sympathy of her example. She well knows that by once enlisting under other banners than her own, were they even the banners of foreign independence, she would involve herself, beyond the power of extrication, in all the wars of interest and intrigue, of individual avarice, envy, and ambition, which assume the colors and usurp the standard of freedom. The fundamental maxims of her policy would insensibly change from liberty to force…. She might become the dictatress of the world: she would be no longer the ruler of her own spirit.

John Quincy Adams, An Address….Celebrating the Anniversary of Independence, at the City of Washington on the Fourth of July 1821…, p. 32 (1821).This appears with minor variations in punctuation and with italics in the phrase "change from liberty to force," in John Quincy Adams and American Continental Empire, ed. Walter LaFeber, p. 45 (1965).

Foreign Policy

Yes, Sir, from Constantinople, or from the Brazils; from Turk or christian; from black or white; from the dey of Algiers or the bey of Tunis; from the devil himself, if he wore a crown, we should receive a minister.

Representative Henry Clay, "Emancipation of South America," speech in the House of Representatives, March 28, 1818.—The Life and Speeches of the Honorable Henry Clay, ed. Daniel Mallory, vol. 1, p. 359 (1844).

Clay was Speaker of the House 1811-1814, 1815-1820, and 1823-1825.

Forgetfulness

We may with advantage at times forget what we know.

Publilius Syrus

Forgiveness

"I can forgive but I cannot forget," is only another wany of saying, "I cannot forgive."

Henry Ward Beecher

Forgiveness

'Tis more noble to forgive, and more manly to despise, than to revenge an Injury.

Benjamin Franklin

Forgiveness

We may pity, though not pardon thee.

William Shakespeare

The Comedy of Errors, I, i, 97

Forgiveness

Always forgive your enemies, nothing annoys them so much.

Author Unknown

Forgiveness

And he said, A certain man had two sons:

And the younger of them said to his father, Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me. And he divided unto them his living.

And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living.

And when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want.

And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine.

And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him.

And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!

I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee,

And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants.

And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him.

And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son.

But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet:

And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry:

For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry.

Now his elder son was in the field: and as he came and drew nigh to the house, he heard musick and dancing.

And he called one of the servants, and asked what these things meant.

And he said unto him, Thy brother is come; and thy father hath killed the fatted calf, because he hath received him safe and sound.

And he was angry, and would not go in: therefore came his father out, and intreated him.

And he answering said to his father, Lo, these many years do I serve thee, neither transgressed I at any time thy commandment: and yet thou never gavest me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends:

But as soon as this thy son was come, which hath devoured thy living with harlots, thou hast killed for him the fatted calf.

And he said unto him, Son, thou art ever with me, and all that I have is thine.

It was meet that we should make merry, and be glad: for this thy brother was dead, and is alive again; and was lost, and is found.

The Bible, Luke 15:11-32. Parable of the prodigal son.

Forgiveness

Cosmus, Duke of Florence, was wont to say of perfidious friends, that "We read that we ought to forgive our enemies; but we do not read that we ought to forgive our friends."

Francis Bacon

Apothegms, no. 206

Forgiveness

God may forgive sins, he said, but awkwardness has no forgiveness in heaven or earth.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Forgiveness

He that cannot forgive others, breaks the bridge over which he must pass himself, for every man hath need to be forgiven.

E. Herbert

Forgiveness

He who has injured thee was either stronger or weaker than thou. If weaker, spare him; if stronger, spare thyself.

Seneca

Forgiveness

He who has not forgiven an enemy has never yet tasted one of the most sublime enjoyments of life.

Lavater

Forgiveness

I can pardon everyone's mistakes but my own.

Marcus Porcius Cato

Forgiveness

I decline to buy repentance at the cost of ten thousand drachmas.

Demosthenes

From Aulus Gellius, Noctes Atticae, I, 8

Forgiveness

Little vicious minds abound with anger and revenge, and are incapable of feeling the pleasure of forgiving their enemies.

Lord Chesterfield

Forgiveness

Never does the human soul appear so strong and noble as when it forgoes revenge, and forgives an injury.

E. H. Chapin

Forgiveness

No one returns with good will to the place which has done him a mischief.

Phaedrus

Fables, I, 18, 1

Forgiveness

O God! That men would see a little clearer; Or judge less harshly when they cannot see! O God! that men would draw a little nearer to one another! They'd then be nearer Thee; and understood.

Thomas Bracken

Forgiveness

Only the brave know how to forgive. A coward never forgave; it is not in his nature.

Laurence Sterne

Forgiveness

The narrow soul knows not the God-like glory of forgiving.

Rowe

Forgiveness

The offender never pardons.

George Herbert

Forgiveness

To be wronged is nothing unless you continue to remember it.

Confucius

Forgiveness

To err is human, to forgive divine—but to forget it altogether is humane.

Gloria Pitzer

Forgiveness

Two persons cannot long be friends if they cannot forgive each other their little failings.

Jean de la Bruyere

Forgiveness

We should forgive our enemies, but only after they have been hanged first.

Heinrich Heine

Fortune/Misfortune

There is a limit to the legitimate interference of collective opinion with individual independence: and to find that limit, and maintain it against encroachment, is as indispensable to a good condition of human affairs, as protection against political despotism.

John Stuart Mill, On Liberty, ed. David Spitz, chapter 1, p. 6 (1975). Originally published in 1859.

Fortune/Misfortune

A great fortune is a great slavery.

Lucius Annaeus Seneca

Moral Essays. To Polybius on Consolatoin, 6, 5

Fortune/Misfortune

A man's worst difficulties begin when he is able to do as he likes.

Thomas Henry Huxley, address on university education, delivered at the formal opening of The Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, September 12, 1876.—Science and Education (vol. 3 of Collected Essays), p. 236 (1898, reprinted 1968).

Fortune/Misfortune

But we know that freedom cannot be served by the devices of the tyrant. As it is an ancient truth that freedom cannot be legislated into existence, so it is no less obvious that freedom cannot be censored into existence. And any who act as if freedom's defenses are to be found in Suppression and suspicion and fear confess a doctrine that is alien to America.

President Dwight D. Eisenhower, letter on intellectual freedom to Dr. Robert B. Downs, president of the American Library Association, June 24, 1953.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Dwight D. Eisenhower 1953, p. 456.

Fortune/Misfortune

Chiefly the mold of a man's fortune is in his own hands.

Francis Bacon

Essays, Of Fortune

Fortune/Misfortune

Eastward I go only by force; but westward I go free.

Henry David Thoreau, "Walking," Excursions, p. 266 (1894).The essay on walking was First published after Thoreau's death, in Atlantic Monthly, June 1862.

Fortune/Misfortune

For what avail the plough or sail,

Or land or life, if freedom fail?

Ralph Waldo Emerson, "Boston," stanza 15, The Complete Writings of Ralph Waldo Emerson, vol. 2, p. 897 (1929).These words were also inscribed on a plaque in the stairwell of the pedestal of the Statue of Liberty.

Fortune/Misfortune

Fortune brings in some boats that are not steer'd.

William Shakespeare

Cymbeline, IV, iii, 46

Fortune/Misfortune

Fortune helps the brave.

Terence [Public Terentius Afer]

Phormio, 203

Fortune/Misfortune

Fortune is like the market, where many times, if you can stay a little, the price will fall.

Francis Bacon

Essays, Of Delays

Fortune/Misfortune

Fortune is not satisfied with inflicting one calamith.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 274

Fortune/Misfortune

Fortune, that with malicious joy

Does man her slave oppress,

Proud of her office to destroy,

Is seldom pleas'd to bless.

John Dryden,

"Horace, the Twenty-Ninth Ode of the Third Book,"

stanza 9, The Poetical Works of Dryden,

new ed. rev. and enl., ed. George R. Noyes,

p. 200 (1950).

Fortune/Misfortune

Good fortune is a god among men, and more than a god.

Aeschylus

The Libation Bearers, 59

Fortune/Misfortune

I have a wife, I have sons; all these hostages have I given to fortune.

(Coniunx est mihi, sunt nati; dedimus tot pignora fatis.)

Lucan,

Pharsalia, book 7, line 662,

Lucan, trans. J. D. Duff,

pp. 418-19 (1928).

Fortune/Misfortune

I must walk toward Oregon, and not toward Europe. And that way the nation is moving, and I may say that mankind progress from east to west…. We go eastward to realize history and study the works of art and literature, retracing the steps of the race; we go westward as into the future, with a spirit of enterprise and adventure.

Henry David Thoreau, "Walking," Excursions, p. 267 (1894).

Fortune/Misfortune

If the fees of freedom and civil liberties burn low in other lands, they must be made brighter in our own. If ill other lands the press and books and literature of all kinds are censored, we must redouble our efforts here to keep them free. If in other lands the eternal truths of the past are threatened by intolerance we must provide a safe place for their perpetuation.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt, address to the National Education Association, New York City, June 30, 1938.—The Public Papers and Addresses of Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1938, p. 418 (1941).

Fortune/Misfortune

If there is any fixed star in our constitutional constellation, it is that no official, high or petty, can prescribe what shall be orthodox in politics, nationalism, religion, or other matters of opinion or force citizens to confess by word or act their faith therein.

Justice Robert H. Jackson, West Virginia State Board of Education v. Barnette, 319 U.S. 642 (1943).

Fortune/Misfortune

In the future days, which we seek to make secure, we look forward to a world founded upon four essential human freedoms. The first is freedom of speech and expression—everywhere in the world. The second is freedom of every person to worship God in his own way—everywhere in the world. The third is freedom from want—which, translated into world terms, means economic understandings which will secure to every nation a healthy peacetime life for its inhabitants—everywhere in the world. The fourth is freedom from fear—which, translated into world terms, means a world-wide reduction of armaments to such a point and in such a thorough fashion that no nation will be in a position to commit an act of physical aggression against any neighbor—anywhere in the world.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt, State of the Union message to the Congress, January 6, 1941.—The Public Papers and Addresses of Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1940, p. 672 (1941).A plaque in the stairwell of the pedestal of the Statue of Liberty is inscribed: "Liberty is the air America breathes…. In the future days, which we seek to make secure, we look forward to a world founded upon four essential freedoms…freedom of speech and expression…freedom of worship…freedom from want…freedom from fear."

Fortune/Misfortune

It is more easy to get a favor from Fortune than to keep it.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 282

Fortune/Misfortune

Men's fortunes are on a wheel, which in its turning suffers not the same man to prosper for ever.

Herodotus, Herodotus, trans. A. D. Godley, vol. 1, book 1, section 207, p. 261 (1931).

Fortune/Misfortune

Modern life means democracy, democracy means freeing intelligence for independent effectiveness—the emancipation of mind as an individual organ to do its own work. We naturally associate democracy, to be sure, with freedom of action, but freedom of action without freed capacity of thought behind it is only chaos.

John Dewey, "Democracy in Education," John Dewey, The Middle Works, 1899-1924, ed. Jo Ann Boydston, vol. 3, p. 229 (1977). First published in The Elementary School Teacher December 1903.

Fortune/Misfortune

The greatest Glory of a free-born People,

Is to transmit that Freedom to their Children.

William Havard, "Regnlus, a Tragedy" act IV, scene iv.—Francis Longe, Collection of Plays, vol. 35, no. 2, p. 59 (1744). Regnlus is speaking.

Fortune/Misfortune

The maxims are, first, that the individual is not accountable to society for his actions, in so far as these concern the interests of no person but himself. Advice, instruction, persuasion, and avoidance by other people if thought necessary by them for their own good, are the only measures by which society can justifiably express its dislike or disapprobation of his conduct. Secondly, that for such actions as are prejudicial to the interests of others, the individual is accountable, and may be subjected either to social or to legal punishment, if society is of opinion that the one or the other is requisite for its protection.

John Stuart Mill, On Liberty, ed. David Spitz, chapter 5, p. 87 (1975). Originally published in 1859.

Fortune/Misfortune

The only freedom which deserves the name, is that of pursuing our own good in our own way, so long as we do not attempt to deprive others of theirs, or impede their efforts to obtain it.

John Stuart Mill, On Liberty, ed. David Spitz, chapter 1, p. 14 (1975). Originally published in 1859.

Fortune/Misfortune

The only part of the conduct of any one, for which he is amenable to society, is that which concerns others. In the part which merely concerns himself, his independence, is, of right, absolute. Over himself, over his own body and mind, the individual is sovereign.

John Stuart Mill, On Liberty, ed. David Spitz, chapter 1, p. 11 (1975). Originally published in 1859.

Fortune/Misfortune

There are some remedies worse than the disease.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 301

Fortune/Misfortune

To be what no one ever was,

To be what everyone has been:

Freedom is the mean of those

Extremes that fence all effort in.

Mark Van Doren, "Freedom," Morning Worship and Other Poems, p. 124 (1960).

Fortune/Misfortune

What the people wanted was a government which would provide a comfortable life for them, and with this as the foremost object ideas of freedom and self-reliance and service to the community were obscured to the point of disappearing. Athens was more and more looked on as a co-operative business possessed of great wealth in which all citizens had a right to share…. Athens had reached the point of rejecting independence, and the freedom she now wanted was freedom from responsibility. There could be only one result.

If men insisted on being free from the burden of a life that was self-dependent and also responsible for the common good, they would cease to be free at all. Responsibility was the price every man must pay for freedom. It was to be had on no other terms.

Edith Hamilton, The Echo of Greece, chapter 2, p. 47 (1957).

Fortune/Misfortune

What would you have me do?

Search out some powerful patronage, and be

Like crawling ivy clinging to a tree?

No thank you.

Dedicate, like all the others,

Verses to plutocrats, while caution smothers

Whatever might offend my lord and master?

No thank you.

Kneel until my knee-caps fester,

Bend my back until I crack my Spine,

And scratch another's back if he'll scratch mine?

No thank you.

Dining out to curry favour,

Meeting the influential till I slaver,

Suiting my style to what the critics want

With slavish copy of the latest cant?

No thanks!

Ready to jump through any hoop

To be the great man of a little group?

Be blown off course, with madrigals for sails,

By the old women sighing through their veils?

Labouring to write a line of such good breeding

Its only fault is—that it's not worth reading?

To ingratiate myself, abject with fear,

And fawn and flatter to avoid a sneer?

No thanks, no thanks, no thanks!

But…just to Sing,

Dream, laugh, and take my tilt of wing,

To cock a snook whenever I shall choose,

To fight for "yes" and "no", come win or lose,

To travel without thought of fame or fortune

Wherever I care to go to under the moon!

Never to write a line that hasn't come

Directly from my heart: and so, with some

Modesty, to tell myself: "My boy,

Be satisfied with a flower, a fruit, the joy

Of a single leaf, so long as it was grown

In your own garden. Then, if success is won

By any chance, you have nothing to render to

A hollow Caesar: the merit belongs to you."

In short, I won't be a parasite; I'll be

My own intention, stand alone and free,

And suit my voice to what my own eyes see!

Edmond Rostand,

Cyrano de Bergerac, act II, trans. Christopher Fry, pp. 56-57 (1975). Originally published in 1897. This is Cyrano's declaration of independence.

Fortune/Misfortune

When Fortune flatters, she does it to betray.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 277

Fortune/Misfortune

When Fortune is on our side, popular favor bears her company.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 275

Fortune/Misfortune

When in disgrace with fortune and men's eyes

I all alone beweep my outcast state,

And trouble deaf heaven with my bootless cries.

William Shakespeare

Sonnet 29, 1

Fortune/Misfortune

When we lose the right to be different, we lose the privilege to be free.

Charles Evans Hughes, address at Faneuil Hall, Boston, Massachusetts, on the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Bunker Hill, June 17, 1925.—Hughes Papers, Library of Congress.

Fortune/Misfortune

Yet we can maintain a free society only if we recognize that in a free society no one can win all the time. No one can have his own way all the time, and no one is right all the time.

President Richard M. Nixon, Alfred M. Landon lecture, Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas, September 16, 1970.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Richard Nixon, 1970, p. 758.

Fortune/Misfortune

You can muffle the drum, and you can loosen the strings of the lyre, but who shall command the skylark not to sing?

Kahlil Gibran, "On Laws," final sentence, The Prophet, p. 46 (1968).

Fortune/Misfortune

Adversity is the trial of principle. Without it a man hardly knows whether he is honest or not.

Henry Fielding

Fortune/Misfortune

Adversity reveals genius, prosperity conceals it.

Horace

Fortune/Misfortune

All of us have sufficient fortitude to bear the misfortunes of others.

Duc de la Rochefoucauld

Fortune/Misfortune

By trying we can easily learn to endure adversity—another man's.

Mark Twain

Fortune/Misfortune

Calamities are of two kinds: misfortune to ourselves, and good fortune to others.

Ambrose Bierce

Fortune/Misfortune

Experience has taught me this, that we undo ourselves by impatience. Misfortunes have their life and their limits, their sickness and their health.

Michel de Montaigne

Fortune/Misfortune

I must complain the cards are ill shuffled till I have a good hand.

Jonathan Swift

Fortune/Misfortune

I never knew any man in my life who could not bear another's misfortunes perfectly like a Christian.

Alexander Pope

Fortune/Misfortune

If all our misfortunes were laid in one common heap whence everyone must take an equal portion, most people would be contented to take their own and depart.

Socrates

Fortune/Misfortune

If you are too fortunate, you will not know yourself. If you are too unfortunate, nobody will know you.

Thomas Fuller

Fortune/Misfortune

It is not my mode of thought that has caused my misfortunes, but the mode of thought of others.

Marquis de Sade

Fortune/Misfortune

Never find your delight in another's misfortune.

Publilius Syrus

Fortune/Misfortune

We have a degree of delight…in the real misfortunes and pains of others.

Edmund Burke

Fraud/Deceit

Fraud and deceit are ever in a hurry. Take time for all things. Great haste makes great waste.

Benjamin Franklin

Free Agency

Free agency—right to work toward the goals of our choice, necessitates acceptance of the consequences of choice.

Author Unknown

Free Agency

Free will is not the liberty to do whatever one likes, but the power of doing whatever one sees ought to be done, even in the very face of otherwise overwhelming impulse. There lies freedom, indeed.

Author Unknown

Free Agency

God has given to all men free agency and has granted us the privilege to serve Him or serve Him not, to do that which is right or that which is wrong, but he will hold us strictly to an account for the use that we make of this agency.

Author Unknown

Free Agency

God is not willing to do everything, and thus take away our free will and that share of glory which belongs to us.

Niccolo Machiavelli

Free Agency

It is my right to be uncommon. For I do not choose to be a common man. If I can, I seek opportunity. I do not wish to be a kept citizen, humbled and dulled by having the government look after me. I choose to take the calculated risk, to dream, to build, to fail or succeed. I choose not to barter incentive for a dole. I prefer the challenges of life to a guaranteed existence, the thrill of fulfillment to the state calm of Utopia. I will not trade my freedom for beneficence nor my dignity for a handout.

Author Unknown

Free Agency

Know this, that every soul is free

To choose his life and what he'll be,

For this eternal truth is given,

That God will force no man to Heaven.

He'll call, persuade, direct aright,

Bless with wisdom, love and light,

In marvelous ways be good and kind,

But never force the Human mind.

Freedom and reason make us men.

Take these away, what are we then?

Mere animals and just as well,

The beasts may think of Heaven or Hell.

Author Unknown

Free Agency

No man has a right to do as he pleases, except when he pleases to do right.

Charles Simmons

Free Agency

Obesity is a condition which proves that the Lord does not help those who help themselves and help themselves and help themselves.

Author Unknown

Free Agency

The Lord doesn't want any person in His kingdom who hasn't known bad and chosen good.

Author Unknown

Free Agency

The mind is its own place to make a hell of heaven or a heaven of hell.

Author Unknown

Free Agency

There is an election going on all the time…the Lord votes for you and Satan votes against you, and you must cast the deciding vote.

Author Unknown

Freedom/Liberty

A people that values its privileges above its principles soon loses both.

Dwight David Eisenhower

Freedom/Liberty

Each of us has a natural right—from God to defend his person, his liberty, and his property. These are the three basic requirements of life, and the preservation of any one of them is completely dependent upon the preservation of the other two. For what are our faculties but the extension of our individuality? And what is property but an extension of our faculties?

Bastiat

Freedom/Liberty

Freedom from fear and injustice and oppression will be ours only in the measure that men who value such freedom are ready to sustain its possession—to defend it against every thrust from within and without.

Dwight David Eisenhower

Freedom/Liberty

Freedom is not the right to do what we want, but what we ought. Let us have faith that right makes might and in that faith let us; to the end, dare to do our duty as we understand it.

Abraham Lincoln

Freedom/Liberty

God who gave us life gave us liberty. Can the liberties of a nation be secure when we have removed a conviction that these liberties are the gift of God? Indeed I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just, that his justice cannot sleep forever.

Thomas Jefferson

Freedom/Liberty

I believe there are more instances of the abridgment of the freedom of the people by gradual and silent encroachment of those in power than by violent and sudden usurpations.

James Madison

Freedom/Liberty

I never mean, unless some peculiar circumstance should compel me to do it, to possess another slave by purchase, it being among my first wishes to see some plan adopted by which slavery in this country may be abolished by law.

George Washington

Freedom/Liberty

If a nation values anything more than freedom, it will lose its freedom, and the irony of it is that if it is comfort or money that it values more, it will lose that too.

W. Somerset Maugham

Freedom/Liberty

None are more hopelessly enslaved than those who falsely believe they are free.

Goethe

Freedom/Liberty

One fact stands out in bold relief in the history of man's attempts for betterment. When compulsion is used only resentment is aroused, and the end is not gained. Only through moral suasion and appeal to men's reason can a movement succeed.

Samuel Gompers

Freedom/Liberty

There are two freedoms—the false; where a man is free to do what he likes; the true; where a man is free to do what he ought.

Charles Kingsley

Freedom/Liberty

This is a world of compensation; and he who would be no slave must consent to have no slave. Those who deny freedom to others deserve it not for themselves, and, under a just God, cannot long retain it.

Abraham Lincoln, letter to H. L. Pierce and others, April 6, 1859.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P Basler, vol. 3, p. 375 (1953).

Freedom/Liberty

14…. Let him then who wishes to be free not wish for anything or avoid anything that depends on others; or else he is bound to be a slave.

Epictetus (c. 50-120 A.D.)

The Manual of Epictetus (The Encheiridion)

Freedom/Liberty

199. If you would enjoy real freedom, you must be the slave of philosophy.

Epicurus (341-270 B.C.)

Fragments

Freedom/Liberty

77. The greatest fruit of self-sufficiency is freedom.

Epicurus (341-270 B.C.)

Fragments

Freedom/Liberty

A day, an hour, of virtuous liberty is worth a whole eternity in bondage.

Joseph Addison

Cato.

Freedom/Liberty

A man is allowed sufficient freedom of thought, provided he knows how to choose his subject properly. You may criticize freely upon the Chinese constitution, and observe with as much severity as you please upon the absurd tricks or destructive bigotry of the Bonzees. But the scene is changed as you come homeward, and atheism or treason may be the names given in Britain to what would be reason and truth if asserted of China.

Edmund Burke

A Vindication of Natural Society, 1756.

Freedom/Liberty

A nation may lose its liberties in a day and not miss them in a century.

Baron de Montesquieu

Freedom/Liberty

Ah! Freedom is a noble thing!

Freedom makes man to have liking.

Freedom all solace to man gives;

He lives at ease that freely lives.

John Barbour

The Bruce, l. 225

Freedom/Liberty

At all times sincere friends of freedom have been rare, and its triumphs have been due to minorities that have prevailed by associating themselves with auxiliaries whose object often differed from their own; and this association, which is always dangerous, has been sometimes disastrous, by giving to opponents just grounds of opposition, and by kindling dispute over the spoils in the hour of success.

Lord Acton (John E. E. Dalberg)

The History of Freedom in Antiquity, 1877.

Freedom/Liberty

Before God, there is neither Greek nor barbarian, neither rich nor poor, and the slave is as good as his master, for by birth all men are free; they are citizens of the universal commonwealth which embraces all the world, brethren of one family, and children of God.

Lord Acton (John E. E. Dalberg)

The History of Freedom in Antiquity, 1877.

Freedom/Liberty

Ever since I arrived at the state of manhood and acquainted myself with the general history of mankind, I have felt a sincere passion for liberty. The history of nations doomed to perpetual slavery, in consequence of yielding up to tyrants their natural-born liberties, I read with a sort of philosophical horror; so that the first systematical and bloody attempt, at Lexington, to enslave America, thoroughly electrified my mind, and fully determined me to take part with my country.

Ethan Allen

Quoted in the Beards' Basic History.

Freedom/Liberty

Every law is an infraction of liberty.

Jeremy Bentham

Quoted by I. Berlin, Two Concepts of Liberty, Oxford, 1958.

Freedom/Liberty

Everywhere the human soul stands between a hemisphere of light and another of darkness; on the confines of the two everlasting hostile empires, necessity and free will.

Thomas Carlyle

Goethe.

Freedom/Liberty

For we both alike know that into the discussion of human affairs the question of justice enters only where the pressure of necessity is equal, and that the powerful exact what they can, and the weak grant what they must.

Thucydides

Freedom/Liberty

Freedom is participation in power.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

Freedom/Liberty

Freedom is the absolute right of all adult men and women to seek permission for their action only from their own conscience and reason, and to be determined in their actions only by their own will, and consequently to be responsible only to themselves, and then to the society to which they belong, but only insofar as they have made a free decision to belong to it.

Mikhail A. Bakunin

Gesammelte Werke, II, 9.

Freedom/Liberty

Freedom is the power to live as you will. Who then lives as he wills?

Marcus Tullius Cicero

Paradoxa Stoicorum, quoted by Adler, The Idea of Freedom, p. 253.

Freedom/Liberty

Freedom suppressed and again regained bites with deeper fangs than freedom never endangered.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

De Officiis, bk. 2.

Freedom/Liberty

Freedom! A fine word when rightly understood. What freedom would you have? What is the freedom of the most free? To act rightly!

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832)

Egmont (1775-1787)

Freedom/Liberty

Great meanwhile is the moment, when tidings of freedom reach us; when the long-enthralled soul, from amid its chains and squalid stagnancy, arises, were it still only in blindness and bewilderment, and swears by Him that made it, that it will be free! Free? Understand that well, it is the deep commandment, dimmer or clearer, of our whole being, to be free. Freedom is the one purport, wisely aimed at, or unwisely, of all man's struggles, toilings and sufferings on this earth.

Thomas Carlyle

The French Revolution.

Freedom/Liberty

Hereditary bondsmen! know ye not

Who would be free themselves must

strike the blow?

By their right arms the conquest must

be wrought?

Will Gaul or Muscovite redress ye? no!

True, they may lay your proud despoilers

low.

But not for you will Freedom's altars

flame.

Lord Byron

Childe Harold's Pilgrimage, 1809-1817.

Freedom/Liberty

I have in mind the only liberty worthy of that name, liberty consisting in the full development of all the material, intellectual, and moral powers latent in every man; a liberty which does not recognize any other restrictions but those which are traced by the laws of our own nature, which, properly speaking, is tantamount to saying that there is no restriction at all, since these laws are not imposed upon us by some outside legislator standing above us, or alongside us.

Mikhail A. Bakunin

The Political Philosophy of Bakunin, p. 270;

quoted by Adler, op. cit., p. 395.

Freedom/Liberty

I have liberated my soul.

St. Bernard

Epistle 371

Freedom/Liberty

I was so free with him as not to mince the matter.

Miguel de Cervantes

Don Quixote de la Mancha, author's preface, p. xix

Freedom/Liberty

I wish men to be free, as much from mobs as kings—from you as me.

Lord Byron

Freedom/Liberty

I would define liberty to be a power to do as we would be done by. The definition of liberty to be the power of doing whatever the law permits, meaning the civil laws, does not seem satisfactory.

John Adams

To J. H. Tiffany, March 31, 1819.

Freedom/Liberty

In the end more than they wanted freedom, they wanted security. When the Athenians finally wanted not to give to society but for society to give to them, when the freedom they wished for was freedom from responsibility, then Athens ceased to be free.

Edward Gibbon

Freedom/Liberty

In the long, fierce struggle for freedom of opinion, the Press, like the church, counted its martyrs by the thousands.

James A. Garfield (1831-1881)

Address, July 11, 1878

Freedom/Liberty

Increase of freedom in the State may sometimes promote mediocrity, and give vitality to prejudice; it may even retard useful legislation, diminish the capacity for war, and restrict the boundaries of Empire….A generous spirit prefers that his country should be poor, and weak, and of no account, but free, rather than powerful, prosperous, and enslaved.

Lord Acton (John E. E. Dalberg)

The History of Freedom in Antiquity, 1877.

Freedom/Liberty

Is not liberty to be evil liberty? If not, what is it? Do we not say that it is necessary to take liberty from idiots and bad men, because they abuse it?

Jeremy Bentham

Quoted by I. Berlin, Two Concepts of Liberty, Oxford, 1958.

Freedom/Liberty

It is a great and dangerous error to suppose that all people are equally entitled to liberty.

John C. Calhoun

Freedom/Liberty

It is bad to be oppressed by a minority, but it is worse to be oppressed by a majority. For there is a reserve of latent power in the masses which, if it is called into play, the minority can seldom resist. But from the absolute will of an entire people there is no appeal, no redemption, no refuge but treason.

Lord Acton (John E. E. Dalberg)

The History of Freedom in Antiquity, 1877.

Freedom/Liberty

L'arbre de la liberte ne croit qu'arrose par le sang des tyrans. (The tree of liberty will grow only when watered by the blood of tyrants.)

Bertrand Barere de Vienzac

Speech, National Assembly, 1792.

Freedom/Liberty

Let us consider that arbitrary power has seldom, or never, been introduced into any country at once. It must be introduced by slow degrees, and, as it were, step-by-step, lest the people should see it approach. The barriers and fences of the people's liberty must be plucked one-by-one, and some plausible pretences must be found for removing or hoodwinking, one after another, those sentries who are posted by the constitution of a free country for warning the people of their danger. When these preparatory steps are once made, the people may then indeed, with regret, see slavery and arbitrary power making long strides over their land; but it will be too late to think of preventing or avoiding the impending ruin.

Philip Dormer Stanhope,

Fourth Earl of Chesterfield

Miscellaneous Works, Vol. IV, 1779.

Freedom/Liberty

Libertas credendi perniciosa ets…nam nihil aliud est quam libertas errandi. (Freedom of belief is pernicious, it is nothing but the freedom to be wrong.)

St. Robert Bellarmine

Freedom/Liberty

Liberty is to the collective body what health is to every individual body. Without health no pleasure can be tasted by man; without liberty no happiness can be enjoyed by society.

Henry St. John Bolingbroke

Freedom/Liberty

Liberty of Speech inviteth and provoketh liberty to be used again, and so bringeth much to a man's knowledge.

Francis Bacon

Advancement of Learning.

Freedom/Liberty

Liberty's chief foe is theology.

Charles Bradlaugh

Freedom/Liberty

Liberty, according to my metaphysics…is a self-determining power in an intellectual agent. It implies thought and choice and power.

John Adams

Letter to John Taylor.

Freedom/Liberty

Many politicians…are in the habit of laying it down as a self-evident proposition, that no people ought to be free till they are fit to use their freedom. The maxim is worthy of the fool…who resolved not to go into the water till he had learned to swim.

Thomas Babington Macaulay

Freedom/Liberty

None can love freedom heartily, but good men; the rest love not freedom, but license.

John Milton

Tenure of Kings and Magistrates

Freedom/Liberty

Oh Freedom, thou are not as poet's dream

A fair young girl with light and delicate

limbs

And wavy tresses. A bearded man

Armed to the teeth art thou. One

mailed hand

Grasps the broad shield and one the

sword; thy brow

Glorious in beauty though it be, is

scarred

With tokens of old wars….

William Cullen Bryant

Freedom/Liberty

Only the educated are free.

Epictetus

Discourses, II, 1

Freedom/Liberty

Order is the first requisite of liberty.

Georg Wilhelm Hegel

Freedom/Liberty

Our contest is not only whether we ourselves shall be free, but whether there shall be left to mankind an asylum on earth for civil and religious liberty.

Samuel Adams

Freedom/Liberty

Our liberty depends on freedom of the press, and that cannot be limited without being lost.

Thomas Jefferson

Freedom/Liberty

The contest for ages has been to rescue liberty from the grasp of executive power.

Daniel Webster

Freedom/Liberty

The cry has been that when war is declared, all opposition should therefore be hushed. A sentiment more unworthy of a free country could hardly be propagated. If the doctrine be admitted, rulers have only to declare war and they are screened at once from scrutiny…. In war, then, as in peace, assert the freedom of speech and of the press. Cling to this as the bulwark of all our rights and privileges.

William Ellery Channing

Freedom/Liberty

The difference between liberty and liberties is as great as between God and gods.

Ludwig Boerne

Fragmente und Aphorismen, 1840.

Freedom/Liberty

The freedom of poetic license.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

De Oratore, III, 153

Freedom/Liberty

The human race, like all the other animal races, has inherent principles which are peculiar to it, and all these principles are summed up in or reducible to a single principle which we call Solidarity. This principle may be formulated thus: no human individual can recognize his own humanity, or, consequently, realize it in life, except by recognizing it in others and by co-operating in its realization for others. No man can emancipate himself save by emancipating with him all the men about him. My liberty is the liberty of everybody, for I am really free, free not only in idea, but in fact, only when my liberty and my right find their confirmation, their sanction, in the liberty and right of all men, my equals.

Mikhail A. Bakunin

Address, Working People's International Ass'n, 1867.

Freedom/Liberty

The loss of liberty in general would soon follow the suppression of the liberty of the press; for it is an essential branch of liberty, so perhaps it is the best preservative of the whole.

John Peter Zenger

Freedom/Liberty

The most certain test by which we judge whether a country is really free is the amount of security enjoyed by minorities.

Lord Acton (John E. E. Dalberg)

The History of Freedom in Antiquity, 1877.

Freedom/Liberty

The natural progress of things is for liberty to yield and government to gain ground.

Thomas Jefferson

Freedom/Liberty

The proletariat uses the State not in the interests of freedom but in order to hold down its adversaries, and as soon as it becomes possible to speak of freedom the State as such ceases to exist.

Friedrich Engels (1820-1895)

Letter to Bebel, august 18, 1875; quoted by Lenin

Freedom/Liberty

The proposition that the people are the best keepers of their own liberties is not true. They are the worst conceivable, they are no keepers at all; they can neither judge, act, think, or will, as a political body.

John Adams

Defence of the Constitution. (Quoted by W. W. Woodward in his Tom paine:

America's Godfather).

Freedom/Liberty

The shepherd drives the wolf from the sheep's throat, for which the sheep thanks the shepherd as his liberator, while the wolf denounces him for the same act as the destroyer of liberty.

Abraham Lincoln

Freedom/Liberty

The tree of liberty must be refreshed from time to time with the blood of patriots and tyrants. It is its natural manure.

Thomas Jefferson

Freedom/Liberty

The truth is, all might be free if they valued freedom, and defended it as they ought.

Samuel Adams

Article published in 1771.

Freedom/Liberty

Their (the Athenians') history furnishes the classic example of the peril of Democracy under conditions singularly favourable…. They were the most religious of the Greeks. They venerated the constitution which had given them prosperity, and equality, and freedom….They tolerated considerable variety of opinion and great licence of speech….They became the only people of antiquity that grew great by democratic institutions. But the possession of unlimited power, which corrodes the conscience, hardens the heart, and confounds the understanding of monarchs, exercised its demoralizing influence on the illustrious democracy of Athens.

Lord Acton (John E. E. Dalberg)

The History of Freedom in Antiquity, 1877.

Freedom/Liberty

There are four things that the Master wholly eschewed: he took nothing for granted, he was never over positive, never obstinate, never egotistic.

[Another translation: "There were four things from which the master was entirely free. He had no foregone conclusions, no arbitrary pre-determinations, no obstinancy, and no egotism."

Confucius (551-479 B.C.)

Analects (tr. Arthur Waley), Bk. IX, 4

Freedom/Liberty

Those who expect to reap the blessings of freedom must, like men, undergo the fatigue of supporting it.

Thomas Paine

Freedom/Liberty

Those who profess to favor freedom, and yet depreciate agitation, are men who want rain without thunder and lightning.

Frederick Douglass

Freedom/Liberty

To deny the freedom of the will is to make morality impossible.

James A. Froude (1818-1894)

Address, "Calvinism," St. Andrew's, March 17, 1871

Freedom/Liberty

To want to be free is to be free.

Ludwig Boerne

Der Ewige Jude, 1821.

Freedom/Liberty

Where the State begins, individual liberty ceases, and vice versa.

Mikhail A. Bakunin

Oeuvres, Vol. I, p. 143; quoted by Adler, The Idea of Freedom, p. 374.

Freedom/Liberty

Wherever public spirit prevails, liberty is secure.

Noah Webster

Freedom/Liberty

Who then is free? This wise man, and the man who is able to govern himself. Not Oenomans, who commits himself wholly to a charioteer that may break his neck, but the man,

Who governs his own course with steady hand,

Who does himself with sovereign power command;

Whom neither death, nor poverty does fright,

Who stands not awkwardly in his own light

Against the truth;…

This, I confess is a freeman….

Abraham Cowley (1618-1667)

Several Discourses by Way of Essays in Verse and Prose; Of Liberty (1668) (cf. Horace, Satires)

Freedom/Liberty

Who will free me from this turbulent priest?

Henry II

Attributed

Freedom/Liberty

Without free speech no search for truth is possible; without free speech no discovery of truth is useful; without free speech progress is checked and the nations no longer march forward toward the nobler life which the future holds for men. Better a thousandfold abuse of free speech than denial of free speech. The abuse dies in a day, but the denial slays the life of the people and entombs the hope of the race.

Charles Bradlaugh

Freedom/Liberty

Yet, Freedom! yet the banner, torn, but flying,

Streams like the thunderstorm against the wind;

Thy trumpet voice, though broken now and dying,

The loudest still the tempest leaves behind.

Lord Byron

Childe Harold's Pilgrimage, 1809-1817.

Freedom/Liberty

You can force a man to enter a church, to approach the altar, to receive the Sacrament; but you cannot force him to believe.

St. Augustine

In Joann, Evang. Tract.

Freedom of Speech

At a moment when despotism displays its naked, hideous front, and finds the uniform and unqualified support of nearly the whole clerical world, which has been always found to be one of its last props, a verdict of not guilty on these important questions will strike it to the ground with the force of an electric fluid, and like a violent whirlwind it will uproot and branch…will destroy the remains of ignorance and superstition, and establish the liberty of the press and free discussion with all its general influence, will give life to the literary and philosophic world which alone can perfect society.

Richard Carlile

The Republican (weekly journal), VII, 1819.; preceding trial for seditious

libel, 1819.

Freedom of Speech

Be not intimidated, therefore, by any terrors, from publishing with the utmost freedom whatever can be warranted by the laws of your country; nor suffer yourselves to be wheedled out of your liberty by any pretenses of politeness, delicacy, or decency. These, as they are often used, are but three different names for hypocrisy, chicanery, and cowardice.

John Adams

Dissertation on the Canon and the Feudal Law, 1765.

Freedom of Speech

But the character of every act depends upon the circumstances in which it is done. The most stringent protection of free speech would not protect a man in falsely shouting fire in a theatre and causing a panic. It does not even protect a man from an injunction against uttering words that may have all the effect of force…. The question in every case is whether the words used are used in such circumstances and are of such a nature as to create a clear and present danger that they will bring about the substantive evils that Congress has a right to prevent. It is a question of proximity and degree.

Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, Schenck v. United States, Baer v. United States, 249 U.S. 52 (1919).

Freedom of Speech

For if Men are to be precluded from offering their sentiments on a matter, which may involve the most serious and alarming consequences, that can invite the consideration of Mankind, reason is of no use to us; the freedom of speech may be taken away, and, dumb and silent we may be led, like sheep, to the slaughter.

General George Washington, address to the officers of the army, Newburgh, New York, March 15, 1783.—The Writings of George Washington, ed. John C. Fitzpatrick, vol. 26, p. 225 (1938).

Freedom of Speech

For in the absence of debate unrestricted utterance leads to the degradation of opinion. By a kind of Gresham's law the more rational is overcome by the less rational, and the opinions that will prevail will be those which are held most ardently by those with the most passionate will. For that reason the freedom to speak can never be maintained merely by objecting to interference with the liberty of the press, of printing, of broadcasting, of the screen. It can be maintained only by promoting debate.

Walter Lippmann, Essays in the Public Philosophy, chapter 9, section 3, pp. 129-30 (1955).

Freedom of Speech

Free discussion is the only necessary constitution—the only necessary law of the constitution.

Richard Carlile

The Republican (weekly journal), VIII. 3, 1823.

Freedom of Speech

I have always been among those who believed that the greatest freedom of speech was the greatest safety, because if a man is a fool, the best thing to do is to encourage him to advertise the fact by speaking. It cannot be so easily discovered if you allow him to remain silent and look wise, but if you let him speak, the secret is out and the world knows that he is a fool. So it is by the exposure of folly that it is defeated; not by the seclusion of folly, and in this free air of free speech men get into that sort of communication with one another which constitutes the basis of all common achievement.

Woodrow Wilson, "That Quick Comradeship of Letters," address at the Institute of France, Paris, May 10, 1919.—The Public Papers of Woodrow Wilson, ed. Ray Stannard Baker and William E. Dodd, vol. 5, p. 481 (1927).

Freedom of Speech

I may disapprove of what you say, but will defend to the death your right to say it.

Voltaire

Freedom of Speech

I realize that, in speaking to you this afternoon, there are certain limitations placed upon the right of free speech. I must be exceedingly careful, prudent, as to what I say, and even more careful and prudent as to how I say it. I may not be able to say all I think; but I am not going to say anything that I do not think.

Eugene V. Debs, speech to the Socialist party of Ohio state convention, Canton, Ohio, June 16, 1918.—Eugene V Debs Speaks, ed. Jean Y. Tussey, p. 244 (1970). This was Debs's most famous speech. It was a socialist antiwar speech while the United States was at war, and it was used against him at his trial. He was convicted under the Espionage Law and sentenced to 10 years in prison. President Harding commuted the sentence in 1921.

Freedom of Speech

I yield to no man—if I may borrow that majestic parliamentary phrase—I yield to no man in my belief in the principle of free debate, inside or outside the halls of Congress. The sound of tireless voices is the price we pay for the right to hear the music of our own opinions. But there is also, it seems to me, a moment at which democracy must prove its capacity to act. Every man has a right to be heard; but no man has the right to strangle democracy with a single set of vocal cords.

Adlai E. Stevenson, speech to the state committee of the Liberal party, New York City, August 28, 1952.—The Papers of Adlai E. Stevenson, vol. 4, p. 63 (1974).

Freedom of Speech

If there be any among us who would wish to dissolve this Union, or to change its Republican form, let them stand undisturbed as monuments of the safety with which error of opinion may be tolerated where reason is left free to combat it.

Thomas Jefferson

Freedom of Speech

Let us dare to read, think, speak and write.

John Adams

Dissertation on the Canon and the Feudal Law, 1765.

Freedom of Speech

Mankind, in the future, will owe all their social benefits to the printing press, and it is known to me that, where an individual addicts himself to mental improvement, he abandons the immoralities that would otherwise engage his attention. The alehouse, I know, has charms insuperable to the great body of mechanics.

Richard Carlile

The Republican (weekly journal), V. 391, 1822.

Freedom of Speech

Mohammet is the prophet we are freest to speak of.

Thomas Carlyle

Freedom of Speech

My whole and sole object, from first to last, from the time of putting off my leather apron to this day, has been a free press and free discussion. When I first started as a hawker of pamphlets, I knew nothing of political principles, I had never read a page of Paine's writings; but I have a complete conviction that there was something wrong somewhere, and that the right application of the printing press was the remedy.

Richard Carlile

The Republican (weekly journal), VII, 1819.

Freedom of Speech

So, dear friend, put fear out of your heart. This nation will survive, this state will prosper, the orderly business of life will go forward if only men can speak in whatever way given them to utter what their hearts hold—by voice, by posted card, by letter or by press. Reason never has failed men. Only force and repression have made the wrecks in the world.

William Allen White,

"To an Anxious Friend," editorial,

The Emporia (Kansas) Gazette, July 27, 1922.

—White, Forty Years on Main Street,

comp. Russell H. Fitzgibbon, p. 285 (1937).

Freedom of Speech

The free communication of ideas and opinions is one of the most precious of the rights of man. Every citizen then can freely speak, write, and print, subject to responsibility for the abuse of this freedom in the cases determined by law.

France (Official and semi-official)

Declarations of the Rights of Man and Citizen, National Assembly (1789), Art. 11

Freedom of Speech

The most beautiful thing in the world is freedom of speech.

Diogenes The Cynic (c. 400-c. 325 B.C.)

Freedom of Speech

The printing press has become the UNIVERSAL MONARCH, and the republic of letters will go on to abolish all minor monarchies, and give freedom to the whole human race, by making it as one nation and one family.

Richard Carlile

The Republican (weekly journal), VI. 449.

Freedom of Speech

The printing press may be strictly denominated a multiplication table as applicable to the mind of man. The art of printing is a multiplication of mind.

Richard Carlile

The Republican (weekly journal), V. 279, 1822.

Freedom of Speech

To preserve the freedom of the human mind…and freedom of the press, every spirit should be ready to devote itself to martyrdom; for as long as we may think as we will, and speak as we think the condition of man will proceed in improvement. The generation which is going off the stage has deserved well of mankind for the struggles it has made, and for having arrested the course of despotism which had overwhelmed the world for thousands and thousands of years. If there seems to be danger that the ground they have gained will be lost again, that danger comes from the generation your contemporary. But that the enthusiasm which characterizes youth should lift its parricide hands against freedom and science would be such a monstrous phenomenon as I cannot place among possible things in this age and country.

Thomas Jefferson, letter to William Green Mumford, June 18, 1799.—Merrill D. Peterson, Thomas Jefferson and the New Nation, p. 616 (1970).In Peterson's book, the letter is identified merely as "a ringing affirmation of the larger faith to a college student," omitting the recipient's name and date. The ellipses stand for a single word that is indecipherable.

Freedom of Speech

Without an unfettered press, without liberty of speech, all the outward forms and structures of free institutions are a sham, a pretense—the sheerest mockery. If the press is not free; if speech is not independent and untrammelled; if the mind is shackled or made impotent through fear, it makes no difference under what form of government you live you are a subject and not a citizen. Republics are not in and of themselves better than other forms of government except in so far as they carry with them and guarantee to the citizen that liberty of thought and action for which they were established.

Senator William E. Borah, remarks in the Senate, April 19, 1917, Congressional Record, vol. 55, p. 837.

Freedom of Speech

Without free speech no search for truth is possible, without free speech no discovery of truth is useful, without free speech progress is checked and the nations no longer march forward toward the nobler life which the future holds for man. Better a thousand-fold abuse of speech than a denial of free speech. The abuse dies in a day, but the denial slays the life of the people, and entombs the hope of the race.

Attributed to Charles Bradlaugh.—Edmund Fuller, Thesaurus of Quotations, p. 398 (1941). Unverified.

Freedom of Speech

Without Freedom of Thought, there can be no such Thing as Wisdom; and no such thing as public Liberty, without Freedom of Speech.

Benjamin Franklin, letter from "Silence Dogood," no. 8, printed in The New-England Courant, Boston, Massachusetts, July 9, 1722. Franklin, writing under the pseudonym Silence Dogood, was quoting the London Journal, no. 80, February 4, 1720/1.—The Papers of Benjamin Franklin, ed. Leonard W. Labaree, vol. 1, p. 27 (1959).

This sentence is one of many quotations inscribed on Cox Corridor 11, a first floor House corridor, U.S. Capitol.

Freedom—Defense Of

A nation which makes the final sacrifice for life and freedom does not get beaten.

Kemal Ataturk.—M. M. Mousharrafa, Ataturk, p. 130 (1944).

He was the first president of the Republic of Turkey.

Freedom—Defense Of

Almighty God hath created the mind free. All attempts to influence it by temporal punishments or burthens…are a departure from the plan of the holy author of our religion….No man shall be compelled to frequent or support any religious worship or ministry or shall otherwise suffer on account of his religious opinions or belief, but all men shall be free to profess and by argument to maintain, their opinions in matters of religion. I know but one code of morality for men whether acting singly or collectively. [b]

Thomas Jefferson. Inscription on the northwest quadrant of the Jefferson Memorial, Washington, D.C., selected by the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Commission.

"A Bill for Establishing Religious Freedom," The Papers of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Julian P Boyd, vol. 2, pp. 545-6 (1950). The inscription contains the ellipses above, but it omits other words without ellipses.

Letter to James Madison, August 28, 1789, The Papers of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Julian P Boyd, vol. 15, p. 367 (1958).

Freedom—Defense Of

For happily the government of the United States, which gives to bigotry no sanction, to persecution no assistance, requires only that they who live under its protection should demean themselves as good citizens, in giving it on all occasions their effectual support…. May the children of the Stock of Abraham, who dwell in this land, continue to merit and enjoy the good will of the other inhabitants, while every one shall sit in safety under his own vine and fig-tree, and there shall be none to make him afraid.

President George Washington, letter to the Hebrew congregation of Newport, Rhode Island, August 17, 1790.—The Writings of George Washington, ed. John C. Fitzpatrick, vol. 31, p. 93, footnote (1939).

Freedom—Defense Of

I believe in an America where the separation of church and state is absolute—where no Catholic prelate would tell the President (should he be Catholic) how to act, and no Protestant minister would tell his parishioners for whom to vote—where no church or church school is granted any public funds or political preference—and where no man is denied public office merely because his religion differs from the President who might appoint him or the people who might elect him.

I believe in an America that is officially neither Catholic, Protestant nor Jewish-where no public official either requests or accepts instructions on public policy from the Pope, the National Council of Churches or any other ecclesiastical source—where no religious body seeks to impose its will directly or indirectly upon the general populace or the public acts of its officials—and where religious liberty is so indivisible that an act against one church is treated as an act against all.

For while this year it may be a Catholic against whom the finger of suspicion is pointed, in other years it has been, and may someday be again, a Jew—or a Quaker—or a Unitarian—or a Baptist. It was Virginia's harassment of Baptist preachers, for example, that helped lead to Jefferson's statute of religious freedom. Today I may be the victim—but tomorrow it may be you—until the whole fabric of our harmonious society is ripped at a time of great national peril.

Finally, I believe in an America where religious intolerance will someday end—where all men and all churches are treated as equal—where every man has the same right to attend or not attend the church of his choice—where there is no Catholic vote, no anti-Catholic vote, no bloc voting of any kind—and where Catholics, Protestants and Jews, at both the lay and pastoral level, will refrain from those attitudes of disdain and division which have so often marred their works in the past, and promote instead the American ideal of brotherhood.

That is the kind of America in which I believe. And it represents the kind of presidency in which I believe—a great office that must neither be humbled by making it the instrument of any one religious group nor tarnished by arbitrarily withholding its occupancy from the members of any one religious group. I believe in a President whose religious views are his own private affair, neither imposed by him upon the Nation or imposed by the Nation upon him as a condition to holding that office.

Senator John F. Kennedy, speech to the Greater Houston Ministerial Association, Houston, Texas, September 12, 1960.—Freedom of Communications, final report of the Committee on Commerce, United States Senate, part 1, pp. 208-9 (1961). Senate Rept. 87-994.

Freedom—Defense Of

In the long history of the world, only a few generations have been granted the role of defending freedom in its hour of maximum danger. I do not shrink from this responsibility—I welcome it.

President John F. Kennedy, inaugural address, January 20, 1961.—The Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: John F Kennedy, 1961, pp. 2-3. This is one of seven inscriptions carved on the walls at the gravesite of John F. Kennedy Arlington National Cemetery.

Freedom—Defense Of

No man is entitled to the blessings of freedom unless he be vigilant in its preservation.

Douglas Macarthur, title of speech to the people of Japan, May 3, 1948, upon the first anniversary of the Japanese constitution.—MacArthur, A Soldier Speaks, p. 194 (1965). Francis T. Miller, General Douglas MacArthur Fighter for Freedom, p. 1 (1942), wrote, "[MacArthur] has said many times to friends: 'The man who will not defend his freedom does not deserve to be free!'"

Freedom—Defense Of

That to compel a man to furnish contributions of money for the propagation of opinions which he disbelieves and abhors, is sinful and tyrannical.

Thomas Jefferson, "A Bill for Establishing Religious Freedom," The Papers of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Julian P. Boyd, vol. 2, p. 545 (1950).

Freedom—Defense Of

The great German poet, Goethe, who also lived through a crisis of freedom, said to his generation: "What you have inherited from your fathers, earn over again for yourselves or it will not be yours." We inherited freedom. We seem unaware that freedom has to be remade and re-earned in each generation of man.

Adlai E. Stevenson, "Politics and Morality," Saturday Review, February 7, 1959, p. 12.He quoted Goethe's Faust, act I, scene i, "Was du ererbt von deinen Vatern hast, / Erwirb es, um es zu besitzen." In Randall Jarrell's translation, "That which you inherit from your fathers / You must earn in order to possess. "—Goethe's Faust, p. 35 (1976).

Freedom—Defense Of

Those who expect to reap the blessings of freedom, must, like men, undergo the fatigues of supporting it.

Thomas Paine, "The Crisis," no. 4, September 11, 1777.—The Writings of Thomas Paine, ed. Moncure D. Conway, vol. 1, p. 229 (1894).

Freedom—Defense Of

We fight not to enslave, but to set a country free, and to make room upon the earth for honest men to live in.

Thomas Paine, "The Crisis," no. 4, September 11, 1777, final paragraph.—The Writings of Thomas Paine, ed. Moncure D. Conway, vol. 1, p. 232 (1902, reprinted 1969).

Freedom—Defense Of

We in this country, in this generation, are—by destiny rather than choice—the watchmen on the walls of world freedom. We ask, therefore, that we may be worthy of our power and responsibility, that we may exercise our strength with wisdom and restraint, and that we may achieve in our time and for all time the ancient vision of "peace on earth, good will toward men." That must always be our goal, and the righteousness of our cause must always underlie our strength. For as was written long ago: "except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain."

President John F. Kennedy, remarks prepared for delivery at the Trade Mart in Dallas, Texas, November 22, 1963.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: John F Kennedy, 1963, p. 894.This speech was never delivered. President Kennedy was on his way to the Trade Mart when he was assassinated. The quotations are from the Bible, Luke 2:14 and Psalms 127:1, respectively.

Friends/Friendship

A companion's words of persuasion are effective.

Homer

Friends/Friendship

A friend is a person with whom I may be sincere. Before him I may think aloud.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Friends/Friendship

A friend is long sought, hardly found, and with difficulty kept.

St. Jerome

Friends/Friendship

A friend is someone who knows all about you and loves you just the same.

Author Unknown

Friends/Friendship

A friend is someone who makes one feel totally acceptable.

Ene Riisora

Friends/Friendship

A friend is, as it were, a second self.

Cicero

Friends/Friendship

A friend that you have to buy won't be worth what you pay for him, no matter what that may be.

George D. Prentice

Friends/Friendship

A man should choose a friend who is better than himself. There are plenty of acquaintances in the world; but very few real friends.

Wisdom of the Chinese

Friends/Friendship

A true friend is someone who is there for you when he'd rather be anywhere else.

Len Wein

Friends/Friendship

Always hold your head up but be careful to keep your nose at a friendly level.

Author Unknown

Friends/Friendship

And the joy of it all; when we count it all up; is found in the making of friends.

Author Unknown

Friends/Friendship

Associate with men of good quality, if you esteem your own reputation, for it is better to be alone than in bad company.

George Washington

Friends/Friendship

Better make a weak man your enemy than your friend.

Henry Wheeler Shaw

Friends/Friendship

Don't flatter yourself that friendship authorizes you to say disagreeable things to your intimates. The nearer you come into relation with a person, the more necessary tact and courtesy become.

Oliver Wendell Holmes

Friends/Friendship

Forming resentments with mankind may be called 'planting misery'; putting aside virtuous deeds; instead of practicing them; may be called 'robbing oneself.'

Wisdom of the Chinese

Friends/Friendship

Friends are an aid to the young, to guard them from error; to the elderly, to attend to their wants, and to supplement their failing power of action; to those in the prime of life, to assist them to noble deeds.

Aristotle

Friends/Friendship

Friends are born, not made.

Henry Adams

Friends/Friendship

Friendship a peculiar boon of heaven,

The noble mind's delight and pride,

To men and angels only given,

To all the lower world denied.

Samuel Johnson

Friends/Friendship

Friendship should be a responsibility, never an opportunity.

Author Unknown

Friends/Friendship

Friendship with a man is friendship with his virtue, and does not admit of assumptions of superiority.

Mencius

Friends/Friendship

Go often to the house of thy friend, for weeds choke up the unused path

William Shakespeare

Friends/Friendship

He is a friend to none who is a friend to all.

Swedish Proverb

Friends/Friendship

He who has a thousand friends has not a friend to spare. And he who has one enemy meets him everywhere.

Ali Ben Abu Saleb

Friends/Friendship

I lay it down as a fact that if all men knew what others say of them, there would not be four friends in the world.

Blaise Pascal

Friends/Friendship

I love good creditable acquaintances; I love to be the worst of the company.

Jonathan Swift

Friends/Friendship

I never found the companion that was so companionable as solitude.

Henry David Thoreau

Friends/Friendship

If a man does not make new acquaintances as he advances through life, he will soon find himself left alone. A man, sir, should keep his friendship in constant repair.

Samuel Johnson

Friends/Friendship

If a man does not receive guests at home; he will meet with few hosts abroad.

Wisdom of the Chinese

Friends/Friendship

In the New Year, may your right hand always be stretched out in friendship, but never in want.

Irish Toast

Friends/Friendship

It takes a long time to grow an old friend.

John Leonard

Friends/Friendship

Many a time from a bad beginning great friendships have sprung up.

Terence

Friends/Friendship

Nothing is there more friendly to a man than a friend in need.

Plautus

Friends/Friendship

One finds many companions for food and drink, but in a serious business a man's companions are very few.

Theognis

Friends/Friendship

One friend in a lifetime is much; two are many; three are hardly possible. Friendship needs a certain parallelism of life, a community of thought, a rivalry of aim.

Henry Adams

Friends/Friendship

One reason we should love our enemies is that we made them ourselves. Another reason is that they keep us on our toes, a third reason is that we should make them our friends.

Author Unknown

Friends/Friendship

One tends to become like his friends and to be judged by them. Avoid attaching to yourself as friends persons who are intemperate, avaricious, extravagant, or ungrateful.

Joy Elmer Morgan

Friends/Friendship

People will go right on preferring to do business with friends.

Author Unknown

Friends/Friendship

Prosperity makes friends, adversity tries them.

Publilius Syrus

Friends/Friendship

Tell me with whom thou art found, and I will tell thee who thou art.

Goethe

Friends/Friendship

The best time to make friends is before you need them.

Ethel Barrymore

Friends/Friendship

The endearing elegance of female friendship.

Samuel Johnson

Friends/Friendship

The friend in my adversity I shall always cherish most. I can better trust those who helped to relieve the gloom of my dark hours than those who are so ready to enjoy with me the sunshine of my prosperity.

Ulysses S. Grant

Friends/Friendship

The friendship that can cease has never been real.

St. Jerome

Friends/Friendship

The only way to have a friend is to be one. A friend is a person with whom I may be sincere. Before him I may think aloud. Happy is the house that shelters a friend. A friend may well be reckoned the masterpiece of nature. Let the soul be assured that somewhere in the universe it should rejoin its friend, and it would be content and cheerful alone for a thousand years.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Friends/Friendship

The shifts of Fortune test the reliability of friends.

Cicero

Friends/Friendship

To like and dislike the same things, that is indeed true friendship.

Crispus

Friends/Friendship

Treat your friend as if he might become an enemy.

Publilius Syrus

Friends/Friendship

True happiness consists not in the multitude of friends, but in the worth and choice.

Ben Jonson

Friends/Friendship

Try to frequent the company of your betters. In books and life, that is the most wholesome society; learn to admire rightly; the great pleasure of life is that. Note what great men admired; they admired great things; narrow spirits admire basely and worship meanly.

William Thackeray

Friends/Friendship

We cannot tell the precise moment when friendship is formed. As in filling a vessel drop by drop which makes it run over. So in a series of kindnesses there is, at last, one which makes the heart run over.

James Boswell

Friends/Friendship

We should behave to our friends as we would wish our friends to behave to us.

Aristotle

Friends/Friendship

What is a friend? A single soul dwelling in two bodies.

Aristotle

Friends/Friendship

Win hearts, and you have all men's hands and purse's.

Burleigh

Friends/Friendship

Win new friends but keep the old. The first are silver; the latter gold.

Author Unknown

Friends/Friendship

Without friends no one would choose to live, though he had all other goods.

Aristotle

Friends/Friendship

You can make more friends in a month by being interested in them than in ten years by trying to get them interested in you.

Charles Allen

Friends/Friendship

"He was a friend to man, and lived in a house by the side of the road."

Homer

Friends/Friendship

But friendship is precious, not only in the shade, but in the sunshine of life; and thanks to a benevolent arrangement of things, the greater part of life is sunshine.

President Thomas Jefferson, letter to Maria Cosway, October 12, 1786.—The Papers of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Julian P Boyd, vol. 10, pp. 449-50 (1954).

Friends/Friendship

For no one, in our long decline,

So dusty, spiteful and divided,

Had quite such pleasant friends as mine,

Or loved them half as much as I did. [stanza 3]

The library was most inviting:

The books upon the crowded shelves

Were mainly of our private writing:

We kept a school and taught ourselves. [stanza 15]

From quiet homes and first beginning,

Out to the undiscovered ends,

There's nothing worth the wear of winning,

But laughter and the love of friends. [stanza 22]

You do retain the song we set,

And how it rises, trips and scans?

You keep the sacred memory yet,

Republicans? Republicans? [stanza 36]

Hilaire Belloc, "Dedicatory Ode" Sonnets and Verse, pp. 70, 73, 74, 76 (1923). Republicans was the name of the friends' club

Friends/Friendship

Friends, and I mean real friends—reserve nothing;

The property of one belongs to the other.

Euripides (485-406 B.C.)

Andromache (c. 427 B.C.)

Friends/Friendship

Friendship is dead:

They were friends who go with the wind,

And the wind was blowing at my door.

Rutebeuf

La Complainte Rutebeuf

Friends/Friendship

Give me one friend, just one, who meets

The needs of all my varying moods.

Esther M. Clark, "A Plea" lines 1 and 2, Verses by a Commonplace Person (1906).

Friends/Friendship

His time is forever, everywhere his place.

Abraham Cowley

Friendship in Absence

Friends/Friendship

Never Explain—your Friends do not need it and your Enemies will not believe you anyway

Elbert Hubbard, The Note Book of Elbert Hubbard, opposite p. 176 (1927).

Friends/Friendship

Now friendship may be thus defined: a complete accord on all subjects human and divine, joined with mutual good will and affection. And with the exception of wisdom, I am inclined to think nothing better than this has been given to man by the immortal gods.

Marcus Tullius Cicero (106-43 B.C.)

De Amicitia (44 B.C.)

Friends/Friendship

Old friends become bitter enemies on a sudden for toys and small offenses.

Robert Burton

Anatomy of Melancholy. Democritus to the Reader

Friends/Friendship

Our cause, then, must be intrusted to, and conducted by, its own undoubted friends—those whose hands are free, whose hearts are in the work—who do care for the result. Two years ago the Republicans of the nation mustered over thirteen hundred thousand strong. We did this under the single impulse of resistance to a common danger, with every external circumstance against us. Of strange, discordant, and even, hostile elements, we gathered from the four winds, and formed and fought the battle through, under the constant hot fire of a disciplined, proud, and pampered enemy. Did we brave all then to falter now?—now when that same enemy is wavering, dissevered, and belligerent? The result is not doubtful. We shall not fail—if we stand firm, we shall not fail. Wise councils may accelerate or mistakes delay it, but, sooner or later, the victory is sure to come.

Abraham Lincoln, speech delivered at the close of the Republican state convention, which named him the candidate for the United States Senate, Springfield, Illinois, June 16, 1858.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P Basler, vol. 2, pp. 468-69 (1953).

Friends/Friendship

The happiest business in all the world is that of making friends,

And no investment on the street pays larger dividends,

For life is more than stocks and bonds, and love than rate percent,

And he who gives in friendship's name shall reap what he has spent.

Anne S. Eaton, "The Business of Friendship," lines 1-4.—Seth Parker, Fireside Poems, p. 34 (1933).

Friends/Friendship

The question was once put to him, how we ought to behave to our friends; and the answer he gave was, "As we should wish our friends to behave to us."

Diogenes Laertius (fl. 200 A.D.)

Lives and Opinions of Eminent Philosophers

Friends/Friendship

There are hermit souls that live withdrawn

In the peace of their self-content;

There are souls, like stars, that dwell apart,

In a fellowless firmament;

There are pioneer souls that blaze their paths

Where highways never ran;

But let me live by the side of the road

And be a friend to man.

Let me live in a house by the side of the road,

Where the race of men go by—

The men who are good and the men who are bad,

As good and as bad as I.

I would not sit in the scorner's seat,

Or hurl the cynic's ban;—

Let me live in a house by the side of the road

And be a friend to man.

I see from my house by the side of the road,

By the side of the highway of life,

The men who press with the ardor of hope,

The men who are faint with the strife.

But I turn not away from their smiles nor their tears—

Both parts of an infinite plan;—

Let me live in my house by the side of the road

And be a friend to man.

I know there are brook-gladdened meadows ahead

And mountains of wearisome height;

That the road passes on through the long afternoon

And stretches away to the night.

But still I rejoice when the travellers rejoice,

And weep with the strangers that moan.

Nor live in my house by the side of the road

Like a man who dwells alone.

Let me live in my house by the side of the road

Where the race of men go by—

They are good, they are bad, they are weak, they are strong,

Wise, foolish—so am I.

Then why should I sit in the scorner's seat

Or hurl the cynic's ban?—

Let me live in my house by the side of the road

And be a friend to man.

Sam Walter,

"The House by the Side of the Road,"

Dreams in Homespun, pp. 11-12 (1898).

Friends/Friendship

Think where man's glory most begins and ends,

And say my glory was I had such friends.

William Butler Yeats, "The Municipal Gallery Revisited," lines 54-55, The Variorum Edition of the Poems of W. B. Yeats, ed. Peter Allt and Russell K. Alspach, p. 604 (1957). Senator George McGovern quoted these words of Yeats's in his concession speech following the 1972 presidential election.

Friends/Friendship

When someone asked Abraham Lincoln, after he was elected president, what he was going to do about his enemies, he replied, "I am going to destroy them. I am going to make them my friends."

Attributed to Abraham Lincoln. Unverified.

Friends/Friendship

With you I should love to live, with you be ready to die.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Odes, III, ix, last line

Friends/Friendship

[When asked, "What is a friend?"]

Another I.

Zeno

From Diogenes Laertius, VII, 23

Friends/Friendship

A friend is, as it were, a second self.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

De Amicitia XXI

Friends/Friendship

A friend should bear his friend's infirmities,

Bur Brutus makes mine greater than they are.

William Shakespeare

Julius Caesar, IV, iii, 85

Friends/Friendship

But in deed,

A friend is never known till a man have need.

John Heywood

Proverbs, pt. I, ch. 11

Friends/Friendship

Can anyone love either the man whom he fears, or the man by whom he believes himself to be feared? Yet tyrants are courted under a pretence of affection, but only for a season. For when, by chance, they have fallen from power, as they generally do, then it is known how poor they were in friends.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

On Friendship. Copyright, Loeb Classical Library.

Friends/Friendship

Do not use a hatchet to remove a fly from your friend's forehead.

Chinese Proverb

Friends/Friendship

Every one that flatters thee

Is no friend in misery.

Words are easy, like the wind;

Faithful friends are hard to find.

Every man will be thy friend

Whilst thou hast wherewith to spend;

But if store of corwns be scant,

No man will supply thy want.

Richard Barnfield

Poems: In Divers Humours, Ode

Friends/Friendship

Friends have all things in common.

Plato

Dialogues, Phaedrus, 279

Friends/Friendship

Friendship among women is only a suspension of hostilities.

Comte de Rivarol

Friends/Friendship

Friendship is an arrangement by which we undertake to exchange small favors for big ones.

Baron de Montesquieu

Friends/Friendship

Go on, my friend, and fear nothing; you carry Caesar and his fortune in your boat.

Julius Caesar

From Plutarch, Lives, Caesar, sec. 38

Friends/Friendship

Have no friends not equal to yourself.

Confucius

The Confucian Analects 1:8, iii

Friends/Friendship

He who has a thousand friends has not a friend to spare,

And he who has one enemy will meet him everywhere.

Ali Ibn-Abu-Talib

A Hundred Sayings

Friends/Friendship

I am amazed that anyone who has made a fortune should send for his friends.

Aristophanes

Plutus, 340

Friends/Friendship

I don't like to commit myself about heaven and hell—you see, I have friends in both places.

Mark Twain

Friends/Friendship

I had rather be the first man among these fellows than the second man in Rome.

Julius Caesar

From Plutarch, Lives, Caesar, sec. 11

Friends/Friendship

I love such mirth as does not make friends ashamed to look upon one another next morning.

Izaak Walton

The Compleat Angler, I, 5

Friends/Friendship

If we all said to people's faces what we say behind one another's backs, society would be impossible.

Honore de Balzac

Friends/Friendship

In politics…shared hatreds are almost always the basis of friendships.

Alexis de Tocqueville

Friends/Friendship

It is a consolation to the wretched to have companions in misery.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 995

Friends/Friendship

It is a true saying, that a man must eat a peck of salt with his friend, before he know him.

Miguel de Cervantes

Don Quixote, pt. I, III, 1, 92

Friends/Friendship

It is more shameful to distrust our friends than to be deceived by them.

Duc de la Rochefoucauld

Friends/Friendship

It is your concern when your neighbor's wall is on fire.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Epistles, I, xviii, 84

Friends/Friendship

Many a time…from a bad beginning great friendships have sprung up.

Terence [Publius Terentius Afer]

Eunuchus, 873

Friends/Friendship

Master Kung said, There are three sorts of friend that are profitable, and three sorts that are harmful. Friendship with the upright, with the true-to-death and with those who have heard much is profitable. Friendship with the obsequious, friendship with those who are good at accommodating their principles, friendship with those who are clever at talk is harmful.

Confucius (551-479 B.C.)

Analects (tr. Arthur Waley), Bk. XVI, 4

Friends/Friendship

May I look on you when my last hour comes; may I hold you, as I sink, with my failing hand.

Albius Tibullus

Elegies, I, i, 59

Friends/Friendship

Mighty proud I am that I am able to have a spare bed for my friends.

Samuel Pepys

Friends/Friendship

Nine-tenths of the people were created so you would want to be with the other tenth.

Horace Walpole

Friends/Friendship

No guest is so welcome in a friend's house that he will not become a nuisance after three days.

Titus Maccius Plautus

Miles Gloriosus, act III, sc. i

Friends/Friendship

Nothing is there more friendly to a man than a friend in need.

Titus Maccius Plautus

Epidicus, act III, sc. iii, l. 44

Friends/Friendship

Nothing so fortifies a friendship as a belief on the part of one friend that he is superior to the other.

Honore de Balzac

Friends/Friendship

So long as you are secure you will count many friends; if your life becomes clouded you will be alone.

Ovid [Publius Ovidius Naso]

Tristia, I, ix, 5

Friends/Friendship

The best mirror is an old friend.

George Herbert

Jacula Prudentum, 296

Friends/Friendship

The shifts of Fortune test the reliability of friends.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

De Amicitia XVII

Friends/Friendship

The truth that is suppressed by friends is the readiest weapon of the enemy.

Robert Louis Stevenson

Friends/Friendship

Thou Sir Launcelot, there thou liest, that thou were never matched of earthly knight's hand. And thou were the courteoust knight that ever bare shield. And thou were the truest friend to thy lover that ever bestrad horse. And thou were the truest lover of a sinful man that ever loved woman. And thou were the kindest man that ever struck with sword. And thou were the goodliest person that ever came among press of knights. And thou were the meekest man and the gentlest that ever ate in hall among ladies. And thou were the sternest knight to thy mortal foe that ever put spear in the rest.

Sir Thomas Malory

Le Morte d'Arthur, XXI, 13

Friends/Friendship

To like and dislike the same things, that is indeed true friendship.

Sallust [Gaius Sallustius Crispus]

The War with Catiline, 20

Friends/Friendship

To whom am I to present my pretty new book, freshly smoothed off with dry pumice stone? To you, Cornelius: for you used to think that my trifles were worth something, long ago.

Gaius Valerius Catullus

Carmina, I, 1

Friends/Friendship

True friendship is like a sound health, the value of it is seldom known until it be lost.

Charles Caleb Colton

Friends/Friendship

Unless you bear with the faults of a friend, you betray your own.

Publilius Syrus

Maxims

Friends/Friendship

We all praise fidelity; but the true friend pays the penalty when he supports those whom Fortune crushes.

Lucan

The Civil War, VIII, 485

Friends/Friendship

What became of the friends I had

With whom I was always so close

And loved so dearly?

Rutebeuf

La Complainte Rutebeuf

Friends/Friendship

What restraint or limit should there be to grief for one so dear?

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Odes, I, xxiv, 1

Friends/Friendship

Who sees Me in all,

And sees all in Me,

For him I am not lost,

And he is not lost for Me.

Bhagavad Gita

Gita 6, 30

Friends/Friendship

Without friends no one would choose to live, though he had all other goods.

Aristotle

Nicomachean Ethics, VIII, 1

Future

"So you've been over into Russia?" said Bernard Baruch, and I answered veryliterally, "I have been over into the future and it works."

Lincoln Steffens, The Autobiography of Lincoln Steffens, vol. 2, chapter 18, p. 799 (1931, reprinted 1958).Steffens had made his second trip to Russia in 1919, as part of a mission sent by President Woodrow Wilson.

Future

A blot in thy scutcheon to all futurity.

Miguel de Cervantes

Don Quixote, Pt. II, III, 35, 681

Future

A man does not plant a tree for himself; he plants it for posterity.

Alexander Smith

Future

Believe in boys and girls and men and women of a great tomorrow that what so ever the boy soweth the man shall reap.

Author Unknown

Future

But this long run is a misleading guide to current affairs. in the long run we are all dead.

John Maynard Keynes, A Tract on Monetary Reform, chapter 3, p. 80 (1923).

Future

For if Freedom and Communism were to compete for man's allegiance in a world at peace, I would look to the future with ever increasing confidence.

President John F. Kennedy, State of the Union address, January 30, 1961.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: John F Kennedy, 1961, p. 23.

Future

He plants trees to benefit another generation.

Statius

Future

He that plants trees loves others besides himself.

Thomas Fuller

Future

I never think of the future. It comes soon enough.

Albert Einstein

Future

In every enterprise consider where you would come out.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 777

Future

My clients are the children; my clients are the next generation. They do not know what promises and bonds I undertook when I ordered the armies of the United States to the soil of France, but I know, and I intend to redeem my pledges to the children; they shall not be sent upon a similar errand.

President Woodrow Wilson, address in Pueblo, Colorado, September 25, 1919.—The Messages and Papers of Woodrow Wilson, ed. Albert Shaw, vol. 2, p. 1127 (1924).

Future

Perhaps the best thing about the future is that it comes one day at a time.

Dean Acheson

Future

The challenge of the next half century is whether we have the wisdom to use that wealth to enrich and elevate our national life, and to advance the quality of our American civilization. .

The Great Society rests on abundance and liberty for all. It demands an end to poverty and racial injustice, to which we are totally committed in our time. But that is just the beginning.

The Great Society is a place where every child can find knowledge to enrich his mind and to enlarge his talents. It is a place where leisure is a welcome chance to build and reflect, not a feared cause of boredom and restlessness. It is a place where the city of man serves not only the needs of the body and the demands of commerce but the desire for beauty and the hunger for community.

It is a place where man can renew contact with nature. It is a place which honors creation for its own sake and for what it adds to the understanding of the race. It is a place where men are more concerned with the quality of their goals than the quantity of their goods.

But most of all, the Great Society is not a safe harbor, a resting place, a final objective, a finished work. It is a challenge constantly renewed, beckoning us toward a destiny where the meaning of our lives matches the marvelous products of our labor.

President Lyndon B. Johnson, remarks at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, May 22, 1964.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Lyndon B. Johnson, 1963-64, book 1, p. 704.

Future

The days that are still to come are the wisest witnesses.

Pindar

Future

The lowest ebb is the turning of the tide.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Future

The nation is burdened with the heavy curse on those who come afterwards. The generation before us was inspired by an activism and a naive enthusiasm, which we cannot rekindle, because we confront tasks of a different kind from those which our fathers faced.

Max Weber, address to convention of the Verein für Socialpolitik, Germany, 1893.—Reinhard Bendix, Max Weber p. 53 (1960).

Future

The only limit to our realization of tomorrow will be our doubts of today. Let us move forward with strong and active faith.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt.—"This is the latest draft of the President's proposed speech [for Jefferson Day, April 13, 1945]. The last sentence [quoted above] was written into the typed draft in his own hand. The draft was not the final one; the preparation of the final draft was prevented by death."—The Public Papers and Addresses of Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1944-45, p. 616 (1950). FDR died April 12, 1945.

Future

Tomorrow once again we sail the Ocean Sea.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Odes, I, vii, last line

Future

We all need to take great interest in the future because we will spend the rest of our life there.

Author Unknown

Future

Yet this corporate being, though so insubstantial to our senses, binds, in Burke's words, a man to his country with "ties which though light as air, are as strong as links of iron." That is why young men die in battle for their country's sake and why old men plant trees they will never sit under.

Walter Lippmann, Essays in the Public Philosophy, chapter 3, part 2, p. 36 (1955). The quotation is from Edmund Burke's speech on "Conciliation with America" (1775).

Future

You cannot fight against the future. Time is on our side.

William Ewart Gladstone (1809-1898)

Speech on the Reform Bill, House of commons, April 27, 1866

Gambling

It [gambling] is the child of avarice, the brother of iniquity, and the father of mischief.

Benjamin Franklin

Gambling

Keep flax from fire, youth from gaming.

Benjamin Franklin

Genealogy

A mule has neither pride of ancestry nor hope of posterity.

Robert G. Ingersoll

Genealogy

Once in every half-century, at longest, a family should be merged into the great, obscure mass of humanity, and forget all about its ancestors.

Nathaniel Hawthorne

Genealogy

The pride of ancestry increases in the ratio of distance.

George William Curtis

Generosity

HAVE YOU EVER?

Have you ever helped another?

Ever earned a grateful smile?

Ever asked a weary brother

In to ride with you a mile?

Have you ever given freely

Of your riches and your worth?

If you haven't then you've really

Missed the greatest joy on earth.

Has the thrill of pride possessed you?

Have you felt your pulses run

As a weaker brother blessed you

For some good that you have done?

Have you seen eyes start to glisten?

That were sad before you came?

If you haven't, stop and listen—

You have missed life's finest game.

Author Unknown

Generosity

THE SIZE OF YOUR HEART

It isn't the size of your house so much

That matters so much at all,

It's the gentle hand, its loving touch,

That maketh it great or small.

The friends who come, in the hour they go,

Who out of your house depart,

Will judge it not by the style you show

It's all in the size of you heart.

It isn't the size of your head so much.

It isn't the wealth you found.

That will make you happy—it's how you touch

The lives that are all around.

For making money is not so hard—

To live life well is an art;

How men love you, how men regard,

Is all in the size of your heart.

Author Unknown

Genetics/Heredity/Environment

I don't know who my grandfather was; I am much more concerned to know what his grandson will be.

Abraham Lincoln

Genius/Talent

Genius is one per cent inspiration and ninety-nine per cent perspiration.

Thomas A. Edison

Genius/Talent

Although men are accused of not knowing their own weakness, yet perhaps few know their own strength. It is in men as in soils, where sometimes there is a vein of gold which the owner knows not of.

Jonathan Swift

Genius/Talent

Everyone is a genius at least once a year; a real genius has his original ideas closer together.

G. C. Lichtenberg

Genius/Talent

Genius does what it must, talent does what it can.

Edward Bulwer-Lytton

Genius/Talent

Genius means little more than the faculty of perceiving in an unhabitual way.

William James

Genius/Talent

Genius, in one respect, is like gold—numbers of persons are constantly writing about both, who have neither.

Charles Caleb Colton

Genius/Talent

In every work of genius we recognize our own rejected thoughts; they come back to us with a certain alienated majesty.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Genius/Talent

In the republic of mediocrity, genius is dangerous.

Robert G. Ingersoll

Genius/Talent

It is the curse of talent that, although it labors with greater steadiness and perseverance than genius, it does not reach its goal, while genius already on the summit of the ideal, gazes laughingly about.

Robert Schumann

Genius/Talent

It is the great triumph of genius to make the common appear novel.

Johann W. von Goethe

Genius/Talent

Men of genius are often dull and inert in society, as a blazing meteor when it descends to earth, is only a stone.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Genius/Talent

The world…is only beginning to see that the wealth of a nation consists more than anything else in the number of superior men that it harbors….Geniuses are ferments; and when they come together, as they have done in certain lands at certain times, the whole population seems to share in the higher energy which they awaken. The effects are incalculable and often not easy to trace in detail, but they are pervasive and momentous.

William James

Genius/Talent

There is no great genius without some touch of madness.

Lucius Annaeus Seneca

Moral Essays. On Tranquility of the Mind, 17, 10

Genius/Talent

Works of genius are the first things in the world.

John Keats

Gentleman

It is easy to be a gentleman when you are well fed.

Will Rogers

Gifts/Giving

All strangers and beggars are from Zeus, and a gift, though small, is precious.

Homer

The Odyssey, VI, 207

Gifts/Giving

He is invited to great things who receives small things greatly.

Magnus Aurelius Cassiodorus

Institutiones

Gifts/Giving

If you are very valiant, it is a god, I think, who gave you this gift.

Homer

The Iliad, I, 178

Gifts/Giving

Never look a gift horse in the mouth.

St. Jerome

On the Epistle to the Ephesians

Gifts/Giving

Riches and power are but gifts of blind fate, whereas goodness is the result of one's own merits.

Heloise

Letter 2, Heloise to Abelard

Gifts/Giving

Rings and jewels are not gifts but apologies for gifts. The only true gift is a portion of thyself.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Gifts/Giving

So it is that the gods do not give all men gifts of grace—neither good looks nor intelligence nor eloquence.

Homer

The Odyssey, VIII, 167

Gifts/Giving

The glorious gifts of the gods are not to be cast aside.

Homer

The Iliad, III, 65

Gifts/Giving

The greatest gift that God in His bounty made in creation, and the most conformable to His goodnes, and that which He prizes the most, was the freedom of the will, with which the creatures with intelligence, they all and they alone, were and are endowed.

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy. Paradiso, canto V, 19

Gifts/Giving

Thus have the gods spun the thread for wretched mortals: that they live in grief while they themselves are without cares; for two jars stand on the floor of Zeus of the gifts which he gives, one of evils and another of blessings.

Homer

The Iliad, Xxiv, 525

Gifts/Giving

What is bought is cheaper than a gift.

Miguel de Cervantes

Gifts/Giving

A benefit consists not in what is done or given, but in the intention of the giver or doer.

Seneca

De Beneficiis

Gifts/Giving

A favor well bestowed is almost as great an honor to him who confers it as to him who receives it.

Richard Steele

Gifts/Giving

A man makes no noise over a good deed, but passes onto another as a vine to bear grapes again in season.

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

Meditations, V, 6

Gifts/Giving

Bis day qui cito dat.

He gives twice who gives promptly.

Anonymous Latin Saying

Gifts/Giving

Every man goes down to his death bearing in his hands only that which he has given away.

Persian Proverb

Gifts/Giving

Fragrance clings to the hand that gives the rose.

Author Unknown

Gifts/Giving

Give a grateful man more than he asks.

Portuguese Proverb

Gifts/Giving

Give what you have. To some one, it may be better than you dare think.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Gifts/Giving

He doubly benefits the needy who gives quickly.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 6

Gifts/Giving

In Giving, a man receives more than he gives; and the more is in proportion to the worth of the thing given.

George McDonald

Gifts/Giving

It's more blessed to give than to receive—especially kittens.

Bill Cosby

Gifts/Giving

Not what we give, but what we share,

For the gift without the giver is bare;

Who gives himself with his alms feeds three—

Himself, his hungry neighbor and Me.

James Russell Lowell

Gifts/Giving

One good turn deserves another.

Gaius Petronius [Petronius Arbiter]

Satyricon, 45

Gifts/Giving

He that gives all, though but little, gives much—for God looks not to the quantity of the gift, but the quality of the giver.

Francis Quarles

Gifts/Giving

Success thinks in terms of giving; not getting. The business man who thinks only of returns soon finds himself without friends among his prospects and customers.

Author Unknown

Gifts/Giving

The best thing to give to your enemy is forgiveness; to an opponent, tolerance; to a friend, your heart; to your child, a good example; to a father, deference; to your mother, conduct that will make her proud of you; to yourself, respect; to all men, charity.

Mrs. Balfour

Gifts/Giving

The manner of giving is worth more than the gift.

Pierre Corneille

Le Menteur, I, 1

Gifts/Giving

Thou who wouldst give, give quickly. In the grave thy loved ones can receive no kindness.

Thomas Carlyle

Glory

Real glory springs from the silent conquest of ourselves.

James Thompson

Glory

The highest and most lofty trees have the most reason to dread the thunder.

Charles Rollins

Goals

A plan is a trap laid to capture the future.

Louis A. Allen

Goals

Ah, but a man's reach should exceed his grasp, or what's a heaven for?

Robert Browning

Goals

Be just and fear not, Let all the ends thou aimest at be thy country's, thy God's and truth's.

William Shakespeare

Goals

Goals are dreams with deadlines.

Diana Scharf Hunt

Goals

Have a purpose in life…and having it, throw such strength of mind and muscle into thy work as has been given thee.

Thomas Carlyle

Goals

Have an aim in life—then don't forget to pull the trigger.

Author Unknown

Goals

Hitch your wagon to a star.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Goals

If you chase two rabbits, both will escape.

Author Unknown

Goals

It is often wonderful how putting down on paper a clear statement of a case helps one to see not perhaps the way out but the way in.

A. C. Benson

Goals

The great thing in this world is not so much where we are, but in the direction we are moving.

Oliver Wendell Holmes

Goals

The man who has no goal who doesn't know where he's going, and whose thoughts must therefore be thoughts of confusion and anxiety and fear and worry…becomes what he thinks about.

Earl Nightingale

Goals

The only part of time that's of interest to me is the future. That's where I'm going to spend the rest of my life.

Charles F. Kettering

Goals

You are the person who has to decide

Whether you'll do it or toss it aside;

You are the person who makes up your mind

Whether you'll lead or will linger behind—

Whether you'll try for the goal that's afar

Or just be contented to stay where you are."

Edgar A. Guest

God/Gods

"Fear God and keep his commandments; for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgement, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil."

Solomon

Ecclesiastes xii

God/Gods

"Glory to God for all things. Amen."

St. Chrysostom

Farrar

God/Gods

"Let us hope," I prayed, "that a kind Providence will put a speedy end to the acts of

God under which we have been laboring."

Peter de Vries, The Mackerel Plaza, p. 28 (1958).

God/Gods

"Thanks be to God," says the Admiral; "the air is soft as in April in Sevill, and it is a pleasure to be in it, so fragrant it is."

Christopher Columbus

Journal of the First Voyage, October 8, 1492

God/Gods

Behold, now, another providence of God. A ship comes into the harbor.

William Bradford

Of Plymouth Plantation, ch. 13

God/Gods

So they committed themselves to the will of God and resolved to proceed.

William Bradford

Of Plymouth Plantation, ch. 9

God/Gods

But since fraud is the vice of which man alone is capable, God loathes it most. Therefore the fraudulent are placed below, and their torment is more painful. Fraud, which is a canker to every conscience, may be practiced by a man on those who trust him, and on those who have reposed no confidence. Therefore within the second circle lie simoniacs, sycophants, and hypocrites, falsifiers, thieves, and sorcerers, grafters, pimps, and all such filthy cheats.

Dante (or Durante) Alighieri (1265-1321)

The Divine Comedy (c. 1307-1320): The Inferno (tr. Ciardi Canto XI

God/Gods

A comprehended God is no God.

Dio Chrysostom (c. 40-120 A.D.)

Quoted in Mencken, Treatise on the Gods, Ch. 5

God/Gods

A god could hardly love and be wise.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 25

God/Gods

A god from the machine.

Menander

The Woman Possessed with a Divinity, fragment 227

God/Gods

Although we do not know what God is, we infer from the existence of the world that He is, not that He is any intelligible essence, but merely that He exists as the cause of all things. His inference is threefold. We observe that things are, and infer that their cause is. We observe that order of the universe, and infer that their cause is wise. We observe that things are in constant motion being alive, and infer that their cause is life. Thus God, considered not in Himself but as the cause of all things, has three aspects: He is, He is wise, and He lives. His being is called the Father, His wisdom is called the Son, His life is called the Holy Ghost, words which denote not the three aspects themselves, but their relation to each other.

John Scotus Erigena (810-877)

Patrologia Latina (tr. G.B. Burch)

God/Gods

And almost every one when age,

Disease, or sorrows strike him,

Inclines to think there is a God,

Or something very like Him.

Arthur Hugh Clough (1819-1861)

Dipsychus

God/Gods

And man has actually invented God…the marvel is that such an idea, the idea of the necessity of God, could enter the head of such a savage, vicious beast as man.

Fyodor Dostoyevski (1821-1881)

The Brothers Karamazov (1880), Bk. V, ch. 3

God/Gods

Beware when the great God lets loose a thinker on this planet. Then all things are at risk….The very hope of man, the thoughts of his heart, the religion of nations, the manners and morals of mankind are all at the mercy of a new generalization.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Essays: First Series (1841)

God/Gods

Concerning perfect blessedness which consists in a vision of God.

St. Thomas Aquinas

Summa Theologica

God/Gods

Doth God exact day-labor, light denied?

John Milton

On His Blindness

God/Gods

For I would rather be a servant in the House of the Lord than to sit in the seats of the mighty.

Senator Alben W. Barkley, address to a mock Democratic convention, Washington and Lee University, Lexington, Virginia, April 30, 1956.—Memorial Services Held in the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States, Together with Remarks Presented in Eulogy of Alben William Barkley, Late a Senator from Kentucky, p. 106 (1956).After speaking these words, Senator Barkley collapsed and died. In her book, I Married the Veep (1958), Jane R. Barkley says (p. 312), "I am not sure, even now, how these words came into being, where they came from. I believe they were original with him but were based on the Old Testament, 84th Psalm: 10, 'I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.'"

God/Gods

For where God built a church, there the Devil would also build a chapel….Thus is the Devil ever God's ape.

Martin Luther

Table Talk, 67

God/Gods

From thee, great God, we spring, to thee we tend—

Path, motive, guide, original and end.

Boethius

De Consolatione Philosophiae, III, 9, 27

God/Gods

God affords no man the comfort, the false comfort of Atheism: He will not allow a pretending Atheist the power to flatter himself, so far, as to seriously think there is no God.

John Donne (1573-1631)

Sermons (1619), No. XXII

God/Gods

God Almighty first planted a garden.

Francis Bacon

Essays, Of Gardens

God/Gods

God always pairs off like with like.

Homer

The Odyssey, XVII, 218

God/Gods

God and all the attributes of God are eternal.

Benedict [Baruch] Spinoza

Ethics, I, 19: note

God/Gods

God antecedently wills all men to be saved, but consequently wills some to be damned, according to the requirements of His justice.

St. Thomas Aquinas

Summa Theologica.

God/Gods

God can no more do without us than we can do without him.

Johannes Eckhard (Meister Eckhard) (c. 1260-1327)

God/Gods

God hath sifted a nation that he might send coice grain into this wilderness.

William Stoughton

Election Sermon at Boston

God/Gods

God is a sea of infinite substance.

St. John of Damascus

De Fide Orthodoxa, I, 9

God/Gods

God is for men and religion for women.

Joseph Conrad (né Korzeniowski)

Nostromo (1904), Ch. 4

God/Gods

God is mind, and God is infinite; hence all is mind.

Mary Baker Eddy (1821-1910)

Science and Health With Key to the Scriptures (1875)

God/Gods

God is that, the greater than which cannot be conceived.

St. Anselm

Proslogion, ch. 3

God/Gods

God is usually on the side of the big squadrons and against the small ones.

Roger de Bussy-Rabutin

Letter to the Comte de Limoges

God/Gods

God of Clotilda, if you grant me victory I shall become a Christian.

Clovis

Legendary vow before battle

God/Gods

God offers to every mind a choice between truth and repose. Take which you please—you can never have both.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Essays: First Series (1841)

God/Gods

God sets us nothing but riddles.

Fyodor Dostoyevski (1821-1881)

The Brothers Karamazov (1880), Pt. I, bk. III, ch. 3

God/Gods

God was left out of the Constitution but was furnished a front seat on the coins of the country.

Samuel Langhorne Clemens ("Mark Twain") (1835-1910)

Mark Twain in Eruption (published 1949)

God/Gods

God wisheth none should wreck on a strange shelf:

To him man's dearer than to himself.

Ben Jonson

The Forest. To Sir Robert Wroth

God/Gods

He wants nothing of a god but eternity and a heaven to throne in.

William Shakespeare

Colianus, V, iv, 25

God/Gods

I cannot conceive otherwise than that He, the Infinite Father, expects or requires no worship or praise from us, but that He is even infinitely above it.

Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790)

Articles Of Belief And Acts Of Religion (Nov. 20, 1728)

God/Gods

I have lived, Sir, a long time, and the longer I live, the more convincing proofs I see of this truth—that God governs in the affairs of men. And if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without his notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without his aid?

Benjamin Franklin, debates in the Constitutional Convention, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, June 28, 1787.—James Madison, Journal of the Federal Convention, ed. E. H. Scott, pp. 259-60 (1893).Franklin suggests that the Convention begin its sessions with prayers "imploring the assistance of Heaven, and its blessings on our deliberations."

God/Gods

I know that the LORD is always on the side of the right. But it is my constant anxiety and prayer that land this nation should be on the LORD'S side.

President Abraham Lincoln.—Francis B. Carpenter, Six Months at the White House with Abraham Lincoln, p. 282 (1867). Reply to a clergyman who said to Lincoln that he hoped "the Lord was on our side."

God/Gods

I say, no creature is so vile but it can boast of being; in proportion to its being is its power of being God, for whatever is being, is God.

Johannes Eckhard (Meister Eckhard) (c. 1260-1327)

God/Gods

I say, the acknowledgment of God in Christ

Accepted by thy reason, solves for thee

All questions in the earth and out of it,

And has so far advanced thee to be wise.

Robert Browning, "A Death in the Desert," stanza 21, The Complete Poetic and Dramatic Works of Robert Browning, p. 390 (1895).

God/Gods

If it is true that God became man, it is also true that man became God.

Johannes Eckhard (Meister Eckhard) (c. 1260-1327)

God/Gods

If the radiance of a thousand suns were to burst forth at once in the sky, that would be like the splendor of the Mighty One.

Gita 11, 12

God/Gods

Is the dwelling place of God anywhere but in the earth and sea, the air and sky, and virtue? Why seek we further for deities? Whatever you see, whatever you touch, that is Jupiter.

Lucan

The Civil War, IX, 578

God/Gods

It is a mistake to say that it is doubtful whether there is a God or not. It is not in the least doubtful, but the most certain thing in the world, nay, the foundation of all other certainty—the only solid absolute objectivity—that there is a moral government of the world.

Johann Gottlieb Fichte (1762-1814)

Über den Grund unseres Glaubens [On the Foundations of Faith] (1798)

God/Gods

It is the final proof of God's omnipotence that he need not exist in order to save us.

Peter de Vries, The Mackerel Plaza, p. 8 (1958).

God/Gods

It is the privilege of the Gods to want nothing, and of godlike men to want little.

Diogenes The Cynic (c. 400-c. 325 B.C.)

God/Gods

It would suffice for me to answer you briefly when you ask why God should have created man, whom he proposed to make in his own image, in the genus of animals. He wished so to fashion him, that there would be a certain animal in which he manifested his own express image. But whoever asks why He wished that, asks the cause of the divine will; to ask that is too presumptious and arrogant….

John Scotus Erigena (810-877)

Patrologia Latina (tr. G.B. Burch)

God/Gods

Light, God's eldest daughter, is a principal beauty in a building.

Thomas Fuller

The Holy State of the Profane State. Of Building

God/Gods

Man has created God, not God man. The priest is the personification of falsehood.

Giuseppe Garibaldi (1807-1882)

Quoted in Noyes, Views of Religion

God/Gods

Metaphysics begins and ends with God.

John Scotus Erigena (810-877)

Patrologia Latina (tr. G.B. Burch)

God/Gods

My God, my Father, and my Friend,

Do not forsake me in my end.

Wentworth Dillon, Earl of Roscommon

Translation of Dies Irae

God/Gods

O my brothers, God exists. There is a soul at the center of nature and over the will of every man, so that none of us can wrong the universe.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Essays: First Series (1841)

God/Gods

Out of God's blessing into the warm sun.

John Heywood

Proverbs, pt. II, ch. 5

God/Gods

Praise to thee, my Lord, for all thy creatures,

Above all Brother Sun

Who brings us the day and lends us his light.

St. Francis of Assisi

The Song of Brother Sun and of All His Creatures

God/Gods

Priests, kings, statesmen, soldiers, bankers, and public functionaries; policemen, jailers and hangmen; capitalists, usurers, business men and property-owners; lawyers, economists and politicians—all of them, down to the meanest grocer, repeat in chorus the words of Voltaire, that if there were no God it would be necessary to invent Him.

Mikhail A. Bakunin

Dieu et l'Etat, posthumously published, 1882.

God/Gods

The basis of all health, sinlessness, and immortality is the first great fact that God is the only mind; and this mind must be not merely believed, but it must be understood.

Mary Baker Eddy (1821-1910)

Science and Health With Key to the Scriptures (1875)

God/Gods

The eternal God had given him [Columbus] strength and courage against all, and other things of much wonder which God had showed forth towards him and for him on that voyage.

Christopher Columbus

Journal of the First Voyage, February 14, 1493

God/Gods

The God that holds you over the pit of hell, much as one holds a spider, or some loathsome insect over the fire, abhors you, and is dreadfully provoked; his wrath towards you burns like fire;…he is of purer eyes than to bear to have you in his sight; you are ten thousand times more abominable in his eyes, than the most hateful venemous serpent is in ours. You have offended him infinitely more than ever a stubborn rebel did his prince; and yet it is nothing but his hand that holds you from falling into the fire every moment.

Jonathan Edwards (1703-1758)

"Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God," sermon (1741)

God/Gods

The gods are just, and of our pleasant vices

Make instruments to plague us.

William Shakespeare

King Lear, V, iii, 172

God/Gods

The gods have sent medicines for the venom of serpents, but there is no medicine for a bad woman. She is more noxious than the viper, or any fire itself.

Euripides (485-406 B.C.)

Andromache (c. 427 B.C.)

God/Gods

The great god Pan is dead.

Plutarch

Morals. Why the Oracles Cease to Give Answers

God/Gods

The Lord showed me, so that I did see clearly, that he did not dwell in these temples which men had commanded and set up, but in people's hearts…his people were his temple, and he dwelt in them.

George Fox

Journal

God/Gods

The Master said,…"Have no friends not equal to yourself."

Confucius (551-479 B.C.)

Confucian Analects (tr. James Legge), Bk. I, 8

God/Gods

The motto ("In God We Trust") stated a lie. If this nation ever trusted in God, that time has gone by; for nearly half a century its entire trust has been in the Republican Party and the dollar—mainly the dollar.

Samuel Langhorne Clemens ("Mark Twain") (1835-1910)

Mark Twain in Eruption (published 1949)

God/Gods

The nearer to the church, the further from God.

John Heywood

Proverbs, pt. I, ch. 9

God/Gods

The place wherein Thou [God] art found unveiled is girt around with coincidence of contradictories, and this is the wall of Paradise wherein Thou dost abide. The door thereof is guarded by the most proud spirit of Reason, and unless he is vanquished, the way will not lie open.

Nicholas de Cusa

(né Krebs) (1401-1464)

The Vision Of God

God/Gods

Then we went to Greece, and the Greeks led us to the edifices where they worship their God, and we knew not whether we were in heaven or on earth. For on earth there is no such splendor or such beauty, and we are at a loss how to describe it. We only know that God dwells there among men, and their service is fairer than the ceremonies of other nations.

The Primary Chronicle

Annal for the year 987:

Vladimir's Christianization of Russia

God/Gods

There is a crack in everything God has made.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Essays: First Series (1841)

God/Gods

There is no such thing as solitude, nor anything that can be said to be alone, and by itself, but God; who is his own circle, and can subsist by himself.

Thomas Browne

Hydriotaphia, or Urne-Buriall, 1658, #10.

God/Gods

They that worship God merely for Fear

Would worship the Devil too, if he appear.

Thomas Fuller (1654-1734)

Gnomologia (1732), No. 6419

God/Gods

To confess that God exists, and at the same time to deny that He has foreknowledge of future things, is the most manifest folly.

St. Augustine

The City of God.

God/Gods

To get into the core of God at his greatest, one must first get into the core of himself at his least, for no one can know God who has not first known himself.

Johannes Eckhard (Meister Eckhard) (c. 1260-1327)

Quoted in Franz Pfieffer, Meister Eckhard (1857)

God/Gods

To the greater glory of God.

Gregory XIII

Quoted in The Canons and Decrees of the Council of Trent

God/Gods

We are in God's hand.

William Shakespeare

King Henry V, III, vi, 181

God/Gods

We are surrounded by eternity and by the uniting of love. There is but one center from which all species issue, as rays from a sun, and to which all species return.

Giordano Bruno

Letter to the Inquisition.

God/Gods

We do not know what God is…because He is infinite and therefore objectively unknowable. God Himself does not know what He is because He is not anything. Therefore, nothing can be predicated of God literally or affirmatively. Literally God is not, because He transcends being.

John Scotus Erigena (810-877)

Patrologia Latina (tr. G.B. Burch)

God/Gods

We have already seen that all power comes from God…. Princes act then as ministers of God, and his lieutenants on earth. It is by them that He rules His empire…. The royal throne is not the throne of a man, but the throne of God himself.

Jacques Benigne Bossuet

Oeuvres de Bossuet, translated by Franklin Le Van Baumer, in his Main Currents of Western Thought.

God/Gods

What will you have? quoth God; pay for it and take it.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Essays: First Series (1841)

God/Gods

When God wounds from on high he will follow with the remedy.

Fernando de Rojas

La Celestina, act X

God/Gods

When God, from whom I have my reason, demands of me to sacrifice it, he becomes a mere juggler that snatches from me what he pretended to give.

Denis Diderot (1713-1784)

A Philosophical Conversation (1777)

God/Gods

When half-gods go,

The gods arrive.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

"Give All to Love" (1847)

God/Gods

Who God doth late and early pray,

More of his grace than gifts to send,

And entertains the harmless day

With a well-chosen book or friend.

Sir Henry Wotton

The Character of a Happy Life, 5

God/Gods

Whoever wants supreme freedom must kill himself. He who cares enough to take his own life is God.

Fyodor Dostoyevski (1821-1881)

The Possessed (1871)

God/Gods

Whom the gods would destroy, they first make mad.

Euripides (485-406 B.C.)

Quoted in Boswell's Life of Johnson

God/Gods

Without the assistance of that Divine Being….I cannot succeed. With that assistance I cannot fail. Trusting in Him who can go with me, and remain with you, and be everywhere for good, let us confidently hope that all will yet be well.

Abraham Lincoln

God/Gods

Your God is one God; there is no God but He, the most merciful.

The Koran

Chapter 2

God/Gods

"The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob," not of philosophers and scholars.

Blaise Pascal

Writing found in Pascal's effects after his death

God/Gods

Her walk revealed her as a true goddess.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aeneid, I, 405

God/Gods

Zeus, accomplisher, to all grant grave restraint and attainment of sweet delight.

Pindar

Olympian Odes Xiii, Last Line

God/Gods

A grudging and infrequent worshipper of the gods.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Odes, I, xxxiv, 1

God/Gods

All men have need of the gods.

Homer

The Odyssey, III, 48

God/Gods

Attach a golden chain from heaven, and all of you take hold of it, you gods and goddesses, yet would you not be able to drag Zeus the most high from heaven to earth.

Homer

The Iliad, VIII, 19

God/Gods

Concerning the gods, I am not able to know to a certainty whether they exist or not. For there are many things which prevent one from knowing, especially the obscurity of the subject, and the shortness of the life of man.

Protagoras

God/Gods

Cursed is everyone who placeth his hope in man.

St. Augustine

God/Gods

Even God cannot change the past.

Agathon

God/Gods

Even if you gods, and all the goddesses too, should be looking on, yet would I be glad to sleep with golden Aphrodite.

Homer

The Odyssey, VIII, 341

God/Gods

God will forgive me; that's his business.

Heinrich Heine

God/Gods

God—but a word invoked to explain the world.

Prat de Lamartine

God/Gods

He seems to me to be equal to a god, he, if it may be, seems to surpass the very gods, who sitting opposite you again gazes at you and hears you sweetly laughing.

Gaius Valerius Catullus

Carmina, LI, 1

God/Gods

Homer and Hesiod attributed to the gods everything that is a shame and a reproach among men.

Xinophanes

Fragment 11

God/Gods

I have with me two gods, Persuasion and Compulsion.

Themistocles

From Plutarch, Lives, Themistocles, 21

God/Gods

If cattle and horses, or lions, had hands, or were able to draw with their feet and produce the works which men do, horses would draw the forms of gods like horses, and cattle like cattle, and they would make the gods' bodies the same shape as their own.

Xenophanes

Fragment 15

God/Gods

If there are none, [i.e., gods]

All our toil is without meaning.

Euripides (485-406 B.C.)

Iphigenia in Aulis (c. 413 B.C.)

God/Gods

Impiety: Your irreverence toward my deity.

Ambrose Bierce

God/Gods

It is convenient that there be gods, and, as it is convenient, let us believe there are.

Ovid [Publius Ovidius Naso]

Ars Amatoria, I, 637

God/Gods

It is easy to understand God as long as you don't try to explain him.

Joseph Joubert

God/Gods

It is fear that first brought gods into the world.

Petronius

God/Gods

Leave all else to the gods.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Odes, I, ix, 9

God/Gods

Many a sober Christian would rather admit that a wafer is God than that God is a cruel and capricious tyrant.

Edward Gibbon

God/Gods

Mother of Aeneas and his race, darling of men and gods, nurturing Venus.

Lucretius [Titus Lucretius Carus]

De Rerum Natura (On the Nature of Things), I, 1 (Invocation)

God/Gods

No mortal could vie with Zeus, for his mansions and his possessions are deathless.

Homer

The Odyssey, IV, 78

God/Gods

Nor does Apollo always stretch the bow.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Odes, II, x, 19

God/Gods

Not even the gods fight against necessity.

The Seven Sages

Ib. 77

God/Gods

Not unknown am I to the goddess [Venus] who mingles with her cares a sweet bitterness.

Gaius Valerius Catullus

Carmina, LXVIII, 17

God/Gods

O nights and suppers of the gods!

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Satires, II, vi, 65

God/Gods

O ye gods, grant me this in return for my piety.

Gaius Valerius Catullus

Carmina, LXXVI, 26

God/Gods

One god, greatest among dogs and men, similar to mortals neither in shape nor even in thought.

Xenophanes

Fragment 23

God/Gods

Our idea of God implies necessary and eternal existence; the manifest conclusion then is that God does exist….That God has foreordained everything is self-evident.

René Descartes

God/Gods

Surely these things lie on the knees of the gods.

Homer

The Odyssey, I, 267

God/Gods

The gods can either take away evil from the world and will not, or, being willing to do so cannot; or they neither can nor will, or lastly, they are able and willing.

If they have the will to remove evil and cannot, then they are not omnipotent. If they can but will not, then they are not benevolent. If they are neither able nor willing, they are neither omnipotent nor benevolent.

Lastly, if they are both able and willing to annihilate evil, why does it exist?

Epicurus (341-270 B.C.)

Aphorisms

God/Gods

The gods have their own rules.

Ovid [Publius Ovidius Naso]

Metamorphoses, IX, 500

God/Gods

The gods, likening themselves to all kinds of strangers, go in various disguises from city to city, observing the wrongdoing and the righteousness of men.

Homer

The Odyssey, XVII, 485

God/Gods

The issue is in God's hands.

Pindar

Olympian Odes, XIII, 147

God/Gods

The Judaical and Christian theology show us a partial god who chooses or rejects, who loves or hates, according to his caprice; in short, a tyrant who plays with his creatures; who punishes in the world the whole human species for the crimes of a single man; who predestinates the greater number of mortals to be his enemies, to the end that he may punish them to all eternity, for having received from him the liberty of declaring against him.

Denis Diderot (1713-1784)

Footnote to d'Holbach's The System of Nature (1770)

God/Gods

The minds of the everlasting gods are not changed suddenly.

Homer

The Odyssey, III, 147

God/Gods

The notion of the Trinity of Gods has enfeebled the belief in one God. A multiplication of beliefs acts as a division of belief; and in proportion as anything is divided it is weakened.

Thomas Paine

God/Gods

The swamp of Styx, by which the gods take oath.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aeneid, VI, 323

God/Gods

There never was any remarkable lawgiver amongst any people who did not resort to divine authority.

Niccolo Machiavelli

God/Gods

Thrice they tried to pile Ossa on Pelion, yes, and roll up leafy Olympus upon Ossa; thrice the Father of Heaven split the mountains apart with his thunderbolt.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Georgics, I, 281

God/Gods

To believe in God is impossible—not to believe in Him is absurd.

Voltaire

God/Gods

We must be greater than God, for we have to undo His injustice.

Jules Renard

God/Gods

We must obey the gods, whatever those gods are.

I say that kings,

Kill, rob, break oaths, lay cities waste by fraud,

And doing thus are happier than those

Who live calm pious lives day after day.

How many little states that serve the gods

Are subject to the godless but more strong,

Made slaves by might of a superior army!

Euripides (485-406 B.C.)

Orestes (408 B.C.)

God/Gods

Who never ate his bread in sorrow, who never sat through the sorrowful nights weeping on his bed, he knows you not, you heavenly Powers.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832)

Wilhelm Meisters Lehrjahre (1796), Ii, 13

God/Gods

Who sees with equal eye, as God of all,

A hero perish or a sparrow fall.

Alexander Pope

God/Gods

Whom the gods would destroy they first make mad.

Euripides

God/Gods

Zeus does not bring all men's plans to fulfillment.

Homer

The Iliad, XVIII, 328

God/Gods

It was built against the will of the immortal gods, and so it did not last for long.

Homer

The Iliad, XII, 8

Good and Evil

It is always good

When a man has two irons in the fire.

Beaumont and Fletcher

The Faithful Friends, I, 2

Good and Evil

How shall I speak of thee or thy power address,

Thou God of our idolatry, the Press?

By thee, religion, liberty and laws

Exert their influence and advance their cause;

By thee worse plagues than Pharaoh's land befell,

Diffused, make earth the vestibule of Hell;

Thou fountain, at which drink the good and wise;

Thou ever-bubbling spring of endless lies;

Like Eden's dead probationary tree,

Knowledge of good and evil is from thee!

William Cowper (1731-1800)

"The Progress of Error" (c. 1782)

Good and Evil

Again, men in general desire the good, and not merely what their fathers had.

Aristotle

Politics, II, 8

Good and Evil

Every art and every inquiry, and similarly every action and pursuit, is thought to aim at some good; and for this reason the good has rightly been declared to be that at which all things aim.

Aristotle

Nicomachean Ethics.

Good and Evil

Everyone confusedly conceives of a good in which the mind may be at rest, and desires it; wherefore everyone strives to attain to it.

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy. Purgatorio, canto XVII, 127

Good and Evil

Faith maintains this principle and we must believe it: Neither the soul nor the human body suffers complete annihilation; the wicked arise again for punishment beyond imagination, while the good rise again for everlasting life.

St. Augustine

De Doctrina Christiana 1, 21, 19.

Good and Evil

For, were it not good that evil things should also exist, the omnipotent God would most certainly not allow evil to be, since beyond doubt it is just as easy for Him not to allow what He does not will, as it is for Him to do what He will.

St. Augustine

Enchiridion.

Good and Evil

Good, the more communicated, more abundant grows.

John Milton

Good and Evil

Goodness is beauty in the best estate.

Christopher Marlowe

Good and Evil

He that is good will infallibly become better, and he that is bad will as certainly become worse, for vice, virtue, and time are three things that never stand still.

Charles Caleb Colton (1780-1832)

The Lacon (1829)

Good and Evil

Healthy-mindedness is inadequate as a philosophical doctrine, because the evil facts which it refuses positively to account for are a genuine portion of reality; and they may after all be the best key to life's significance.

William James

Good and Evil

If you know that [a] thing is unrighteous, then use all dispatch in putting an end to it—why wait till next year?

Mencius

Book III, 2:8.3

Good and Evil

Ignorance of good and evil is the most upsetting fact of human life.

Marcus Tullius Cicero (106-43 B.C.)

De Finibus, Bk. I, Ch. 13, sec 43

Good and Evil

Most of the evils of life arise from man's being unable to sit still in a room.

Blaise Pascal

Good and Evil

Only a coward or a madman would give good for evil.

Euripides

Good and Evil

Our repentance is not so much regret for the evil we have done, as fear of its consequences.

Duc de la Rochefoucauld

Good and Evil

Si finis bonus est, totum bonum erit.

If the end be good, all will be good.

Gesta Romanorum ("Deeds of the Romans")

(13th or 14th century A.D.)

Good and Evil

The dove loves when it quarrels; the wolf hates when it flatters.

St. Augustine

Sermons 64

Good and Evil

The good have no need of an advocate.

Phocion

From Plutarch, Apothegms, Phocion, 10

Good and Evil

The highest good.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

De Officiis, I, 2

Good and Evil

The Infinite Goodness has such wide arms that it takes whatever turns to it.

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy. Purgatorio, canto III, 121

Good and Evil

There's nothing either good or bad, but thinking makes it so.

William Shakespeare

Good and Evil

These are thy glorious works, Parent of good.

John Milton

Paradise Lost, V, 153

Good and Evil

They say that this lot is bitterest: to recognize the good but by necessity to be barred from it.

Pindar

Pythian Odes IV, 510

Good and Evil

Those indeed are conquerors who, as I have now, have conquered the intoxications (the mental intoxications arising from ignorance, sensuality or craving after future life). Evil dispositions have ceased in me; therefore it is I that am conqueror!

Gautama Buddha

Attributed; Encyclopaedia Britannica, 11th ed., vol. iv.

Good and Evil

Two principles we should always have ready—that there is nothing good or evil save in the will; and that we are not to lead events, but to follow them.

Epictetus

Discourses, III, 10

Good and Evil

We are ne'er like angels till our passion dies.

Thomas Dekker

Good and Evil

We must as second best…take the least of the evils.

Aristotle

Nicomachean Ethics, II, 9

Good and Evil

We will take the good will for the deed.

Francois Rabelais

Garguntua and Pantagruel, IV,

Rabelais to the Reader, ch. 49

Good and Evil

What can only be taught by the rod and with blows will not lead to much good; they will not remain pious any longer than the rod is behind them.

Martin Luther

The Great Cathechism. Second Command

Good and Evil

[Epicurus] set forth what is the highest good, towards which we all strive, and pointed out the past, whereby along a narrow track we may strain on towards it in a straight course.

Lucretius [Titus Lucretius Carus]

De Rerum Natura, VI, 26

Good And Evil

Two souls, alas! reside within my breast,

And each withdraws from, and repels, its brother;

One with tenacious organs holds in love

And clinging lust the world in its embraces;

The other strongly sweeps, this dust above,

Into the high ancestral spaces.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832)

Faust (1806, Tr. Bayard Taylor), Sc. Ii

Goodness

Be good; get good; and do good. Do all the good you can; to all the people you can; in all the ways you can; as often as ever you can; as long as you can.

Charles H. Spurgeon

Goodness

If a man be gracious and courteous to strangers, it shows he is a citizen of the world, and that his heart is no island cut off from other lands, but a continent that joins to them.

Francis Bacon

Essays, Of Goodness and Goodness of Nature

Goodness

Look for no reward in goodness but goodness itself.

Author Unknown

Goodness

There is no odor so bad as that which arises from goodness tainted.

Henry David Thoreau

Goodness

They that know no evil will suspect none.

Ben Jonson

Gossip

A wife's long tongue is the staircase by which misfortunes ascend to the house.

Mencius

Gossip

Calumny would soon starve and die of itself if nobody took it in and gave it lodging.

Leighton

Gossip

Diseases enter by the mouth; misfortunes issue from it.

Mencius

Gossip

Done to death by slanderous tongues.

William Shakespeare

Much Ado About Nothing, V, iii, 3

Gossip

For slander lives upon succession,

Forever housed where it gets possession.

William Shakespeare

The Comedy Of Errors, III, I, 105

Gossip

God loveth not the speaking ill of anyone in public.

The Koran

Chapter 4

Gossip

Gossip is mischievous, light and easy to raise, but grievous to bear and hard to get rid of. No gossip ever dies away entirely, if many people voice it: it too is a kind of divinity.

Hesiod

Gossip

How good it would be if we could learn to be rigorous in judgment of ourselves, and gentle in our judgment of our neighbors! In remedying defects, kindness works best with others, sternness with ourselves. It is easy to make allowances for our faults, but dangerous; hard to make allowances for other's faults, but wise. "If thy hand offend thee, cut it off," is a word for our sins; for the sins of others, "Father, forgive them."

Maltbie Babcock

Gossip

If you don't want to read it, see it or hear it, don't say it.

Author Unknown

Gossip

If you want a line on a man, ask somebody that works with him.

Will Rogers

Gossip

Ill deeds are doubled with an evil word.

William Shakespeare

The Comedy of Errors, III, ii, 20

Gossip

It is easier to gather up a bag of loose feathers than to round up or head off a single lie.

Author Unknown

Gossip

Nothing is easier that fault-finding; no talent, no self-denial, no brains, no character are required to set up in the grumbling business.

Robert West

Gossip

Speak well of everyone, if you speak of them at all.

Elbert Hubbard

Gossip

Suppress slanders and protect the innocent.

Mencius

Gossip

Tale bearers are as bad as tale makers.

Sheridan

Gossip

That most knowing of persons—gossip.

Lucius Annaeus Seneca

Epistles, 43, 1

Gossip

The most knowing of persons—gossip.

Seneca

Gossip

The only thing worse than being talked about is not being talked about.

Oscar Wilde

Gossip

When a bee stings, she dies. She cannot sting and live. When men sting, their better selves die. Every sting kills a better instinct. Men must not turn bees and kill themselves in stinging others.

Sir Francis Bacon

Government

Some have said that it is not the business of private men to meddle with government—a bold and dishonest saying, which is fit to come from no mouth but that of a tyrant or a slave.

Marcus Porcius Cato, "The Censor"

Government

A Conservative Government is an organized hypocrisy.

Benjamin Disraeli (Earl of Beaconsfield) (1804-1881)

Speeches, House of Commons, March 17, 1845

Government

A decent and manly examination of the acts of the Government should be not only tolerated, but encouraged.

William Henry Harrison

Government

A democracy, that is a government of all the people, by all the people, for all the people; of course, a government of the principles of eternal justice, the unchanging law of God; for shortness' sake, I will call it the idea of Freedom.

Theodore Parker

Government

A government is the only vessel known to leak from the top.

James Reston

Government

A new science of politics is needed for a new world.

Alexis de Tocqueville

Government

A religion that never suffices to govern a man will never suffice to save him.

John Howe

Government

A state is better governed which has but few laws, and those laws strictly observed…

René Descartes

Government

A state which is incompetent to satisfy different races condemns itself; a state which does not include them is destitute of the chief basis of self-government. The theory of nationality, therefore, is a retrograde step in history.

Lord Acton (John E. E. Dalberg)

Nationality. The Home and Foreign Review, July, 1862.

Reprinted in Essays on Freedom and Power.

Government

A wise government knows how to enforce with temper, or to conciliate with dignity, but a weak one is odious in the former, and contemptible in the latter.

George Grenville, speech against the motion for expelling John Wilkes, House of Commons, February 3, 1769.—The Parliamentary History of England, printed by T. C. Hansard, vol. 16, col. 570 (1813)."Though Grenville had taken a prominent part in the early measures against Wilkes, he opposed his expulsion from the House of Commons on 3 Feb. 1769, in probably the ablest speech that he ever made."—The Dictionary of National Biography, vol. 8, p. 559.

Government

Above all, we should not forget, that government is, abstractly speaking, an evil, an usurpation upon the private judgment and individual conscious of mankind; and that, however we may be obliged to admit it as a necessary evil for the present, it behooves us, as the friends of reason and the human species, to admit as little of it as possible, and carefully to observe, whether in consequence of the gradual illumination of the human mind, that little may not hereafter be diminished.

William Godwin (1756-1836)

An Inquiry Concerning Political Justice

and Its Influence on General Virtue and Happiness (1793)

Vol. 2, Bk. V, ch. 1

Government

Admit that the press transferred the pontificate of Rome to Henry VIII—Admit that the press demolished in some sort the feudal system, and set the serfs and villins free; admit that the press demolished the monasteries, nunneries, and religious houses; into whose hands did all these alienated baronies, monasteries, and religious houses and lands fall? Into the hands of the democracy? Into the hands of serfs and villins? Serfs and villins were the only real democracy in those time. No. They fell into the hands of other aristocrats…

John Adams

Letter to John Taylor, The Life and Works of John Adams, Boston, 1851, v. 6,

p. 510.

Government

All free governments are managed by the combined wisdom and folly of the people.

James A. Garfield

Government

All government, indeed every human benefit and enjoyment, every virtue, and every prudent act, is founded on compromise and barter. We balance inconveniences; we give and take; we remit some rights that we may enjoy others…man acts from motives relative to his interests; and not on metaphysical speculations.

Edmund Burke

Speech on Conciliation with America, March 22, 1775.

Government

An absolute democracy, no more than absolute monarchy, is to be reckoned among the legitimate forms of government.

Edmund Burke

Reflections on the Revolution in France, 1790.

Government

And thus Bureaucracy, the giant power wielded by pigmies, came into the world.

Honore de Balzac, Bureaucracy (vol. 12 in The Works of Honoré de Balzac), p. 13 (1901, reprinted 1971).

Government

As the government of the United States of America is not in any sense founded on the Christian Religion—as it has itself no character of enmity against the law, religion or tranquility of Musselmen,…

John Adams

Article 11, Treaty of Peace and Friendship between the United States and the

Bey an Subjects of Tripoli of Barbary. Treaties and Other International Acts of the United States of America. Edited by Hunter Miller. Vol. 2.

1776-1818. U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., 1931; p. 365.

Government

As the happiness of the people is the sole end of government, so the consent of the people is the only foundation of it, in reason, morality, and the natural fitness of things.

John Adams

Government

Before my term has ended, we shall have to test anew whether a nation organized and governed such as ours can endure. The outcome is by no means certain.

President John F. Kennedy, annual message to Congress on the State of the Union, January 30, 1961.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: John F Kennedy, 1961, p. 19.

Government

But in all despotic governments, though a particular prince may favour arts and letter, there is a natural degeneracy of mankind.

Joseph Addison

The Spectator

Government

But in truth, in no instance has a system in regard to religion been ever established, but for the purpose, as well as with the effect of its being made an instrument of intimidation, corruption, and delusion, for the support of depredation and oppression in the hands of governments.

Jeremy Bentham

Constitutional Code.

Government

But, sir, I have said I do not dread these corporations as instruments of power to destroy this country, because there are a thousand agencies which can regulate, restrain, and control them; but there is a corporation we may all well dread. That corporation is the Federal Government.

Senator Benjamin H. Hill, remarks in the Senate on the Pacific Railroad funding bill, March 27, 1878, Congressional Record, vol. 7, p. 2067.

Government

Can free government possible exist with the Roman Catholic religion?

John Adams

To Jefferson, May 19, 1821.

Government

Divide et impera.

Divide and rule.

Anonymous Latin

Ancient political maxim

cited by Machiavelli

Government

Every country has the government it deserves.

(Toute nation a le gouvernement qu'elle mérite.)

Joseph Marie de Maistre,

letter to M. le chevalier de…,

August 15, 1811.—Lettres et Opuscules

Inédits du Comte J De Maistre, 5th ed.,

book 1, p. 264 (1869).

Government

Every step we take toward making the State the caretaker of our lives, by that much we move toward making the State our master.

Dwight David Eisenhower

Government

Far more important to me is, that I should be loyal to what I regard as the law of my political life, which is this: a belief that that country is best governed, which is least governed…

George Hoadly, remarks in Ohio constitutional convention, June 19, 1873.—Official Report of the Proceedings and Debates of the Third Constitutional Convention of Ohio…, p. 436 (1873).

Government

Fellow-citizens! Clouds and darkness are round about Him! His pavilion is dark waters and thick clouds of the skies! Justice and judgement are the habitation of his throne! Mercy and truth shall go before his face! Fellow-citizens! God reigns and the government at Washington still lives.

Representative James A. Garfield, address to calm a crowd in New York City, April 17, 1865, two days after the death of President Lincoln.—Theodore Clarke Smith, The Life and Letters of James Abram Garfield, vol. 1, p. 383 (1925). Smith notes that while the tradition of this speech was so well established during Garfield's own lifetime as to become "a familiar commonplace," no clipping of it exists among Garfield's papers, nor did Garfield himself, so far as known, refer to it in later times.

Government

For in reason, all government without the consent of the governed is the very definition of slavery.

Jonathan Swift

Government

For nearly five years the present Ministers have harassed every trade, worried every profession, and assailed or menaced every class, institution, and species of property in the country. Occasionally they have varied this state of civil warfare by perpetrating some job which outraged public opinion, or by stumbling into mistakes which have been always discreditable, and sometimes ruinous. All this they call a policy, and seem quite proud of it; but the country has, I think, made up its mind to close this career of plundering and blundering.

Benjamin Disraeli, letter to Lord Grey de Wilton, October 3, 1873.—W F. Monypenny and George Earl Buckie, The Life of Benjamin Disraeli, vol. 5, chapter 7, p. 262 (1920).Lord Grey was standing for Parliament, and was a personal friend of Disraeli's, who "wrote for publication…a full-blooded letter, conceived in the hustings spirit, but it only restated, in pointed fashion, charges which Disraeli had often brought against Ministers in public speeches and… [in] the House of Commons. A vehement outcry was, however, raised against its tone and language; and even many of his own party attributed to this indiscretion Grey de Wilton's failure by a small majority" to win the seat. Disraeli "was quite impenitent" (p. 262).

A footnote indicates that the "plundering and blundering" phrase had been used before by Disraeli, in Coningsby, book 2, chapter 4.

Government

For where's the state beneath the firmament

That doth excel the bees for government?

Guillaume de Salluste, Seigneur Du Bartas

Divine Weeks and Works, First Week, Fifth Day, pt. 1

Government

Gentlemen, suppose all the property you were worth was in gold, and you had put it in the hands of Blondin to carry across the Niagara River on a rope, would you shake the cable, or keep shouting out to him—"Blondin, stand up a little straighter—Blondin, stoop a little more—go a little faster—lean a little more to the north—lean a little more to the south?" No, you would hold your breath as well as your tongue, and keep your hands off until he was safe over. The Government are carrying an immense weight. Untold treasures are in their hands. They are doing the very best they can. Don't badger them. Keep silence, and we'll get you safe across.

President Abraham Lincoln, reply to critics of his administration, 1864.—Francis B. Carpenter, "Anecdotes and Reminiscences of President Lincoln" in Henry Jarvis Raymond, The Life and Public Services of Abraham Lincoln…, p. 752 (1865).Carpenter, a portrait artist, lived in the White House for six months beginning February 1864, to paint the president and the entire Cabinet. His relations with the president became of an "intimate character," and he was permitted "the freedom of his private office at almost all hours,…privileged to see and know more of his daily life" than most people. He states that he "endeavored to embrace only those [anecdotes] which bear the marks of authenticity. Many….I myself heard the President relate; others were communicated to me by persons who either heard or took part in them" (p. 725).

Blondin (real name Jean Francois Gravelet) was a French tightrope walker who crossed Niagara Falls on a tightrope in 1855, 1859, and 1860.

Government

Good government obtains when those who are near are made happy, and those who are far off are attracted.

Confucius

Government

Government is a contrivance of human wisdom to provide for human wants.

Edmund Burke

Government

Government is a trust, and the officers of the government are trustees; and both the trust and the trustees are created for the benefit of the people.

Henry Clay

Government

Government is necessary, not because man is naturally bad…but because man is by nature more individualistic than social.

Thomas Hobbes

Government

Government is not reason, it is not eloquence, it is force; like fire, a troublesome servant and a fearful master. Never for a moment should it be left to irresponsible action.

Attributed to George Washington.—Frank J. Wilstach, A Dictionary of Similes, 2d ed., p. 526 (1924). This can be found with minor variations in wording and in punctuation, and with "fearful" for "troublesome," in George Seldes, The Great Quotations, p. 727 (1966). Unverified.

In his most recent book of quotations, The Great Thoughts (1985), Seldes Says, p. 441, col. 2, footnote, this paragraph "although credited to the 'Farewell' [address] cannot be found in it. Lawson Hamblin, who owns a facsimile, and Horace Peck, America's foremost authority on quotations, informed me this paragraph is apocryphal."

Government

Government, as it was forced upon mankind by their voices, so has it commonly been the creature of their ignorance and mistakes.

William Godwin (1756-1836)

An Inquiry Concerning Political Justice

and Its Influence on General Virtue and Happiness (1793)

Government

Governments are not overthrown by the poor, who have no power, but by the rich—when they are insulted by their inferiors, and cannot obtain justice.

Dionysius of Halicarnassus (c. 20 B.C.)

Antiquities of Rome

Government

Governments can err, Presidents do make mistakes, but the immortal Dante tells us that divine justice weighs the sins of the cold-blooded and the sins of the warm-hearted in different scales. Better the occasional faults of a Government that lives in a spirit of charity than the consistent omissions of a Government frozen in the ice of its own indifference.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt, speech accepting renomination for the presidency, June 27, 1936.—The Public Papers and Addresses of Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1936, p. 235 (1938).

Senator John F. Kennedy quoted these words of Roosevelt's in a campaign speech in Houston, Texas, September 12, 1960.—Freedom of Communications, final report of the Committee on Commerce, United States Senate, part I, p. 203 (1961). Senate Rept. 87-994.

Government

Governments exist to protect the rights of minorities. The loved and the rich need no protection,—they have many friends and few enemies.

Wendell Phillips

Government

Governments, like clocks, go from the motion men give them, and as governments are made and moved by men, so by them they are ruined too. Wherefore governments rather depend upon men, than men upon governments. Let men be good, and the government cannot be bad; if it be ill, they will cure it. But if men be bad, let the government be never so good, they will endeavour to warp and spoil it to their turn.

William Penn, in his Preface to the First Frame of Government [constitution] for Pennsylvania, which was formally adopted in England, April 25, 1682.—The William Penn Tercentenary Committee, Remember William Penn, 2d ed., p. 81 (1945).

The committee noted that the preface was perhaps "Penn's best expression of his ideas of government" (p. 80).

Government

He who exercise government by means of his virtue may be compared to the north polar star, which keeps its place and all the stars turn towards it.

Confucius

Government

Here is my first principle of foreign policy: good government at home.

William Ewart Gladstone

Government

History proves that dictatorships do not grow out of strong and successful governments, but out of weak and helpless ones. If by democratic methods people get a government strong enough to protect them from fear and starvation, their democracy succeeds; but if they do not, they grow impatient. Therefore, the only sure bulwark of continuing liberty is a government strong enough to protect the interests of the people, and a people strong enough and well enough informed to maintain its sovereign control over its government.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt, fireside chat on economic conditions, April 14, 1938.—The Public Papers and Addresses of Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1938, pp. 242-43 (1941).

Government

I am struggling to maintain the government, not to overthrow it. I am struggling especially to prevent others from overthrowing it.

President Abraham Lincoln, response to a serenade, October 19, 1864.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P Basler, vol. 8, p. 52 (1953).

Government

I believe that the essence of government lies with unceasing concern for the welfare and dignity and decency and innate integrity of life for every individual. I don't like to say this and wish I didn't have to add these words to make it clear but I will—regardless of color, creed, ancestry, sex or age.

Lyndon B. Johnson, remarks at a civil rights symposium, LBJ Library, Austin, Texas, December 12, 1972.—Text, p. 1.

Government

I believe that this government cannot endure permanently half slave and half free.

Abraham Lincoln

Government

I confess I have the same fears for our South American brethren; the qualifications for self-government in society are not innate. They are the result of habit and long training, and for these they will require time and probably much suffering.

Thomas Jefferson, letter to Edward Everett, March 27, 1824.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Andrew A. Lipscomb, vol. 16, p. 22 (1904).

Government

I go for sharing the privileges of the government who assist in bearing its burdens.

Abraham Lincoln

Government

I have always given it as my decided opinion that no nation had a right to intermeddle in the internal concerns of another; that everyone had a right to form and adopt whatever government they liked best to live under themselves.

George Washington

Government

I have nothing but contempt for the kind of governor who is afraid, for whatever reason, to follow the course that he knows is best for the State; and as for the man who sets private friendship above the public welfare—I have no use for him, either.

Sophocles

Government

I heartily accept the motto,—"That government is best which governs least;" and I should like to see it acted up to more rapidly and systematically. Carried out, it finally amounts to this, which I also believe,—"That government is best which governs not at all;" and when men are prepared for it, that will be the kind of government which they will have. Government is at best but an expedient; but most governments are usually, and all governments are sometimes, inexpedient.

Henry David Thoreau, Civil Disobedience, first paragraph, Walden and Civil Disobedience, ed. Owen Thomas, p. 224 (1966). This essay was first published in 1849.The motto Thoreau referred to was almost certainly that of The United States Magazine and Democratic Review, a literary-political monthly: "The best government is that which governs least."

Ralph Waldo Emerson expressed a similar sentiment in his essay "Politics":

"Hence the less government we have the better—the fewer laws and the less confided power."—Essays: Second Series, in The Complete Writings of Ralph Waldo Emerson, vol. 1, p. 302 (1929).

Government

I know no Nation in the World, whose Government is not perfectly Despotick, that ever makes preventive Laws.

Daniel Defoe (1660?-1731)

An Essay on the Regulation of the Press (January 7, 1704)

Government

I once said cynically of a politician, "He'll doublecross that bridge when he comes to it."

Oscar Levant

Government

I place economy among the first and important virtues, and public debt as the greatest of dangers….We must make our choice between economy and liberty, or profusion and servitude. If we can prevent the government from wasting the labors of the people under the pretense of caring for them, they will be happy.

Thomas Jefferson

Government

I think our governments will remain virtuous for many centuries; as long as they are chiefly agricultural; and this will be as long as there shall be vacant lands in any part of America. When they get piled upon one another in large cities, as in Europe, they will become corrupt as in Europe.

Thomas Jefferson, letter to James Madison, December 20, 1787.—The Papers of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Julian P. Boyd, vol. 12, p. 442 (1955).

Government

If all men were just, there still would be some, though not so much, need of government.

Abraham Lincoln

Government

If men were angels, no government would be necessary. If angels were to govern men, neither external nor internal controls on government would be necessary.

James Madison

Government

If men were angels, no government would be necessary. If angels were to govern men, neither external nor internal controls on government would be necessary.

James Madison, The Federalist, ed. Benjamin F. Wright, no. 51, p. 356 (1961).

Government

If parties in a republic are necessary to secure a degree of vigilance to keep the public functionaries within the bounds of law and duty, at that point their usefulness ends.

William Henry Harrison

Government

If the Government becomes a lawbreaker, it breeds contempt for law; it invites every man to become a law unto himself; it invites anarchy. To declare that in the administration of the criminal law the end justifies the means—to declare that the Government may commit crimes in order to secure the conviction of a private criminal—would bring terrible retribution.

Justice Louis D. Brandeis, dissenting, Olmstead et al. v. United States, 277 U.S. 485 (1928).

Government

If we can prevent the government from wasting the labors of the people, under the pretence of taking care of them, they must become happy.

President Thomas Jefferson, letter to Thomas Cooper, November 29, 1802.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Paul L. Ford, vol. 8, p. 178 (1897).

Government

If we do not make common cause to save the good ship of the Union on this voyage, nobody will have a chance to pilot her on another voyage.

Abraham Lincoln

Government

In a free and republican government, you cannot restrain the voice of the multitude. Every man will speak as he thinks, or more properly, without thinking, and consequently will judge of effects without attending to their causes.

George Washington

Government

In a political sense, there is one problem that currently underlies all of the others. That problem is making Government sufficiently responsive to the people. If we don't makegovernment responsive to the people, we don't make it believable. And we must make government believable if we are to have a functioning democracy.

Representative Gerald R. Ford, address at Robert A. Taft government seminar banquet, Jacksonville University, Jacksonville, Florida, December 16, 1971.—Gerald R. Ford, Selected Speeches, ed. Michael V. Doyle, p. 170 (1973).

Government

In a word, we object to all legislation, all authority, and all influence, privileged, official and legal, even when it has proceeded from universal suffrage, convinced that it must always turn to the profit of a dominating and exploiting minority, against the interests of the immense majority enslaved.

Mikhail A. Bakunin

Quoted, Encyclopaedia Britannica.

Government

In carrying on your government, why should you use killing [the unprincipled for the good of the unprincipled] at all? Let your evinced desires be for what is good, and the people will be good. The relation between superiors and inferiors is like that between the wind and the grass. The grass must bend when the wind blows across it.

Confucius

The Confucian Analects, 12:19

Government

In general, the art of government consists of taking as much money as possible from one class of citizens to give to the other.

Voltaire

Government

In the government of the sage,

He keeps their hearts vacuous,

Fills their bellies,

Weakens their ambitions,

And strengthen their bones,

He always causes his people to be

without knowledge [cunning] or desire,

And the crafty to be afraid to act.

Lao Tzu

The Way of Lao Tzu 3

Government

In the long-run every Government is the exact symbol of its People, with their wisdom and unwisdom; we have to Say, Like People like Government.

Thomas Carlyle, Past and Present, ed. Richard D. Altick, book 4, chapter 4, p. 267 (1965). First published in 1843.

Government

Incessant change, everlasting innovation, seem to be dictated by the true interests of mankind. But government is the perpetual enemy of change.

William Godwin (1756-1836)

An Inquiry Concerning Political Justice

and Its Influence on General Virtue and Happiness (1793)

Bk. III, ch. 7

Government

It was once said that the moral test of government is how that government treats those who are in the dawn of life, the children; those who are in the twilight of life, the elderly; and those who are in the shadows of life—the sick, the needy and the handicapped.

Senator Hubert H. Humphrey, remarks at the dedication of the Hubert H Humphrey Building, November 1, 1977.—Congressional Record, November 4, 1977, vol. 123, p. 37287.

Government

Men must be governed by God or they will be ruled by tyrants.

Attributed to William Penn.—Virginia Ely, I Quote, p. 189 (1947). Unverified.Numerous sources cite this remark but it has not been found in Penn's writings.

Government

Must a government, of necessity, be too strong for the liberties of its own people, or too weak to maintain its own existence?

President Abraham Lincoln, message to Congress in special session, July 4, 1861.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P Basler, vol. 4, p. 426 (1953).

Government

My reading of history convinces me that most bad government has grown out of too much government.

Senator John Sharp Williams, Thomas Jefferson: His Permanent influence on American institutions, p. 49 (1913). Lecture delivered at Columbia University, New York City, 1912.

Government

Nature has placed mankind under the government of two sovereign masters, pain and pleasure. It is for them alone to point out what we ought to do, as well as to determine what we shall do. On the one hand the standard of right and wrong, on the other the chain of causes and effects, are fastened to their throne. They govern us in all we do, in all we say, in all we think: every effort we can make to throw off our subjection, will serve but to demonstrate and confirm it.

Jeremy Bentham

Constitutional Code.

Government

No government can be long secure without a formidable Opposition.

Benjamin Disraeli (Earl of Beaconsfield) (1804-1881)

Coningsby (1844), Book iii, Ch. 1

Government

No government can exist without taxation…. This money must necessarily be levied on the people; and the grand art consists of levying so as not to oppress.

Frederick (II) The Great (1712-1784)

An Essay on Forms of government (1777)

Government

No man is good enough to govern another man without that other's consent.

Abraham Lincoln

Government

No power of government ought to be employed in the endeavor to establish any system or article of belief on the subject of religion.

Jeremy Bentham

Constitutional Code.

Government

Oligarchy: A government resting on a valuation of property, in which the rich have power and the poor man is deprived of it.

Plato

The Republic, VIII, 550-C

Government

Only perhaps in the United States, which alone of countries can do without governing,—every man being at least able to live, and move off into the wilderness, let Congress jargon as it will,—can such a form of so-called "Government" continue for any length of time to torment men with the semblance, when the indispensable substance is not there.

Thomas Carlyle, Latter-Day Pamphlets, no. 6, pp. 16-17 (1850).

Government

Other misfortunes may be borne, or their effects overcome. If disastrous war should sweep our commerce from the ocean, another generation may renew it; if it exhaust our treasury, future industry may replenish it;….It were but a trifle even if the walls of yonder Capitol were to crumble, if its lofty pillars should fall, and its gorgeous decorations be all covered by the dust of the valley. All these might be rebuilt. But who shall reconstruct the fabric of demolished government? Who shall rear again the well-proportioned columns of constitutional liberty?….No, if these columns fall, they will be raised not again…. they will be the remnants of a more glorious edifice than Greece or Rome ever saw, the edifice of constitutional American liberty.

Senator Daniel Webster, "The Character of Washington," speech delivered in Washington, D.C., at a public dinner in honor of the centennial birthday of George Washington, February 22, 1832.—The Works of Daniel Webster 10th ed., vol. 1, p. 231 (1857).

Government

Our form of government may remain notwithstanding legislation or decision, but, as long ago observed, it is with governments, as with religion, the form may survive the substance of the faith.

Chief Justice Melville W. Fuller, dissenting, the Lottery Case, 188 U.S. 375 (1903).

Government

Party division, whether on the whole operating for good or evil, are things inseparable from free government.

Edmund Burke

Observations on a Late State of the Nation, 1769.

Government

Political rule is so natural and necessary to the human race that it cannot be withdrawn without destroying nature itself; for the nature of man is such that he is a social animal.

St. Robert Bellarmine

De Laicis.

Government

Politics is perhaps the only profession for which no preparation is thought necessary.

Robert Louis Stevenson

Government

Public confidence in the integrity of the Government is indispensable to faith in democracy; and when we lose faith in the system, we have lost faith in everything we fight and spend for.

Adlai E. Stevenson, governor of Illinois, speech before the Los Angeles Town Club, Los Angeles, California, September 11, 1952.—Speeches of Adlai Stevenson, p. 31 (1952).

Government

Ruling a big country is like cooking a small fish.

Lao Tzu

The Way of Lao Tzu 60

Government

Shall we have recourse to the art of printing? But this has not destroyed property or aristocracy or corporations or paper wealth in England or America, or diminished the influence of either; on the contrary, it has multiplied aristocracy and diminished democracy.

John Adams

Letter to John Taylor, The Life and Works of John Adams, Boston, 1851, v. 6,

p. 510.

Government

That government is best which governs the least, because its people discipline themselves.

Thomas Jefferson

Government

The administration of government, like a guardianship ought to be directed to the good of those who confer, not of those who receive the trust.

Attributed to Marcus Tullius Cicero.—Tryon Edwards, Dictionary of Thoughts, p. 204 (1891). Unverified.

Government

The American wage earner and the American housewife are a lot better economists than most economists care to admit. They know that a government big enough to give you everything you want is a government big enough to take from you everything you have.

President Gerald R. Ford, remarks to a joint session of Congress, August 12, 1974.—The Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Gerald R. Ford, 1974, p. 6.Representative Ford was quoted as having expressed the same idea nearly fifteen years earlier: "If the government is big enough to give you everything you want, it is big enough to take away everything you have. "—John F. Parker, "If Elected, I Promise . .Stories and Gems of Wisdom by and About Politicians, p. 193 (1960). No source is given.

Government

The best of all governments is that which teaches us to govern ourselves.

Goethe

Government

The Constitution of the United States gives Congress no power to legislate in the matter of a great number of vital problems of government, such as the conduct of public utilities, of banks, of insurance, of business, of agriculture, of education, of social welfare, and of a dozen other important features. Washington must never be permitted to interfere in these avenues of our affairs.

Franklin D. Roosevelt

Government

The final end of government is not to exercise restraint but to do good.

Rufus Choate

Government

The first thing I would do in my government, I would have nobody to control me. I would be absolute; and who but I: now, he that is absolute can do what he likes, can take his pleasure; he that can take his pleasure, can be content; and he that can be content, has no more to desire; so the matter's over.

Miguel de Cervantes

Don Quixote, pt. I.

Government

The free system of government we have established is so congenial with reason, with common sense, and with a universal feeling, that it must produce approbation and a desire of imitation, as avenues may be found for truth to the knowledge of nations.

James Madison, letter to Pierre E. Duponceau, January 23, 1826.—James Madison papers, Library of Congress.These words are inscribed in the Madison Memorial Hall, Library of Congress James Madison Memorial Building.

Government

The Government of the Union, then is emphatically and truly a government of the people. In form and substance it emanates from them. Its powers are granted by them, and are to be exercised directly on them and for their benefit.

John Marshall

Government

The great art of governing consists in not letting men grow old in their jobs. (Ne pas laisser vieillir les hommes doit etre le grand art du gouvernement.)

Napoleon, letter to Lazare Nicolas Marguerite Carnot, August 9, 1796.—Correspondance de Napoleon Ier, vol. I, p. 532 (1858).

Government

The great difficulty with politics is that there are no established principles.

Napoleon Bonaparte

Government

The great question is to discover, not what governments prescribe, but what they ought to prescribe; for no prescription is valid against the conscience of mankind.

Lord Acton (John E. E. Dalberg)

The History of Freedom in Antiquity, 1877.

Government

The immediate object of government, is security.

The means employed by government, is restriction, an abridgement of individual independence….

Consequently, the most desirable state of mankind, is that which maintains general security, with the smallest encroachment upon individual independence.

William Godwin (1756-1836)

An Inquiry Concerning Political Justice and Its Influence on General Virtue and Happiness (1793), pp. xxiv-xxv

Government

The individual who refuses to defend his rights when called by his Government, deserves to be a slave, and must be punished as an enemy of his country and friend to her foe.

Andrew Jackson

Government

The legitimate object of government is to do for a community of people whatever they need to have done, but cannot do at all in their separate and individual capacities.

Abraham Lincoln

Government

The nearest approach to immortality on earth is a government bureau.

James F. Byrnes, Speaking Frankly, p. 7 (1947).Byrnes served in Congress 1911-1925 and 1930-1941.

Government

The office of government is not to confer happiness, but to give men opportunity to work out happiness for themselves.

William Ellery Channing

Government

The path to political preferment lies through orthodoxy.

Walter Bagehot

Government

The people are not the origin of all just power.

David Hume

Government

The people's government, made for the people, made by the people, and answerable to the people.

Daniel Webster

Government

The pitifulest thing out is a mob; that's what an army is—a mob; they don't fight with courage that's born in them, but with courage that's borrowed from their mass, and their officers. But a mob without any man at the head of it, is beneath pitifulness.

Samuel Langhorne Clemens ("Mark Twain") (1835-1910)

Huckleberry Finn (1884), Ch. xxii

["All modern American literature comes from one book by Mark Twain called Huckleberry Finn. American writing comes from that. There was nothing before. There has been nothing as good since."—Ernest Hemingway, The Green Hills of Africa, Ch. 1.]

Government

The question before the human race is, whether the God of nature shall govern the world by his own laws, or whether priests and kings shall rule it by fictitious miracles.

John Adams

To Jefferson, June 20, 1815

Government

The Russian government is an absolute monarchy tempered by assassination.

Adam Philippe, Comte de Custine (1740-1793)

Spoken to Ernst F.H. Munster, Hanoverian envoy, and usually credited to him

Government

The scarlet thread running thru the thoughts and actions of people all over the world is the delegation of great problems to the all-absorbing leviathan—the state—Every time that we try to lift a problem to the government to the same extent we are sacrificing the liberties of the people.

John F. Kennedy

Government

The small progress we have made after four or five weeks close attendance and continual reasonings with each other…is, methinks, a melancholy proof of the imperfection of the human understanding. We indeed seem to feel our own want of political wisdom, since we have been running about in search of it. We have gone back to ancient history for models of government, and examined the different forms of those republics which, having been formed with seeds of their own dissolution, now no longer exist.

Benjamin Franklin, debates in the Constitutional Convention, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, June 28, 1787.—James Madison, Journal of the Federal Convention, ed. E. H. Scott, p. 259 (1893).

Government

The State is force; nay, it is the silly parading of force. However many pains it may take, it cannot conceal the fact that it is the legal maimer of our will, the constant negation of our liberty. Even when it commands good, it makes the value less by commanding it, for every command slaps liberty in the face.

Mikhail A. Bakunin

Polnoye Sobraniye Sochinenii, I, pp. 17-18.

Government

The State…will become nothing more than a simple business office, a sort of central bookkeeping department, devoted to the service of Society.

Mikhail A. Bakunin

Selected Works, p. 222.

Government

The system…is the best that the present views and circumstances of the country will permit.

Alexander Hamilton, The Federalist, ed. Benjamin F. Wright, no. 85, p. 544 (1961). Hamilton acknowledged the imperfect nature of the government that would result from adopting the Constitution, but he felt it imprudent "to prolong the precarious state of our national affairs…in the chimerical pursuit of the perfect plan."

Government

The true art of government consists in not governing too much.

Jonathan Shipley, bishop of St. Asaph, sermon, at parish church of St. Mary-LeBow, London, February 19, 1773.—A Sermon Preached Before the incorporated Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, p. 11 (1773). Reprinted in English Defenders of American Freedoms, 1774-1778, ed. Paul H. Smith, pp. 22-23 (1972).

Government

The will of the people is the only legitimate foundation of any government, and to protect its free expression should be our first object.

Thomas Jefferson

Government

There is an important sense in which government is distinctive from administration. One is perpetual, the other is temporary and changeable. A man may be loyal to his government and yet oppose the particular principles and methods of administration.

Attributed to Representative Abraham Lincoln.—W. T. Roche, address at Washington, Kansas, April 9, 1942: "These words were spoken by Lincoln, then a Congressman, in defense of his condemnation of President Polk for provoking the Mexican War."—Congressional Record, April 15, 1942, vol. 88, Appendix, p. A1493. Not found in The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P Basler (1953).

Government

There is no credit to being a comedian, when you have the whole Government working for you. All you have to do is report the facts. I don't even have to exaggerate.

Will Rogers.—PJ. O'Brien, Will Rogers, Ambassador of Good Will, Prince of Wit and Wisdom, chapter 9, p. 157 (1935).

Government

There is no error so monstrous that it fails to find defenders among the ablest men. Imagine a congress of eminent celebrities, such as More, Bacon, Grotius, Pascal, Cromwell, Bossuet, Montesquieu, Jefferson, Napoleon, Pitt, etc. The result would be an Encyclopedia of Error. They would assert slavery, socialism, persecution, divine right, military despotism, the reign of force, the supremacy of the executive over the legislation and justice, purchase in the magistracy, the abolition of credit, the limitation of laws to nineteen years, etc.

Lord Acton (John E. E. Dalberg)

Letter to Mary Gladston, April 24, 1881

Government

This government never of itself furthered any enterprise, but by the alacrity with which it got out of its way. It does not keep the country free. It does not settle the West. It does not educate. The character inherent in the American people has done all that has been accomplished; and it would have done somewhat more, if the government had not sometimes got in its way. For government is an expedient by which men would fain succeed in letting one another alone; and, as has been said, when it is most expedient, the governed are most let alone by it.

Henry David Thoreau

Government

Those people who are not governed by God will be ruled by tyrants.

William Penn

Government

Though the people support the government, the government should not support the people.

(Stephen) Grover Cleveland (1837-1908)

Veto, Texas Seed Bill, February 16, 1887

Government

Thus, a people may prefer a free government, but if, from indolence, or carelessness, or cowardice, or want of public spirit, they are unequal to the exertions necessary for preserving it; if they will not fight for it when it is directly attacked; if they can be deluded by the artifices used to cheat them out of it; if by momentary discouragement, or temporary panic, or a fit of enthusiasm for an individual, they can be induced to lay their liberties at the feet even of a great man, or trust him with powers which enable him to subvert their institutions; in all these cases they are more or less unfit for liberty: and though it may be for their good to have had it even for a short time, they are unlikely long to enjoy it.

John Stuart Mill, Considerations on Representative Government, p. 6 (1861).

Government

To be governed is to be watched over, inspected, spied on, directed, legislated at, regulated, docketed, indoctrinated, preached at, controlled, assessed, weighed, censored, ordered about, by men who have neither the right nor the knowledge nor the virtue.

Pierre-Joseph Proudhon.—From an English translation of his Idée Générale de la Révolution au XIXe Siécle (1851) quoted in James Joll, The Anarchists, chapter 3, p. 78 (1964).

Government

To say that private men have nothing to do with government is to say that private men have nothing to do with their own happiness or misery; that people ought not to concern themselves whether they be naked or clothed, fed or starved, deceived or instructed, protected or destroyed.

Marcus Porcius Cato, "The Censor"

Government

Too much law was too much government; and too much government was too little individual privilege,—as too much individual privilege in its turn was selfish license.

Woodrow Wilson, "The Author and Signers of the Declaration of Independence," address at Jamestown exposition, Norfolk, Virginia, July 4, 1907.—The Papers of Woodrow Wilson, ed. Arthur S. Link, vol. 17, p. 254 (1974).

Government

Trust nothing to the enthusiasm of the people. Give them a strong and a just, and, if possible, a good, government; but, above all, a strong one.

Arthur Wellesley, Duke of Wellington, letter to Lieutenant-General Lord William Bentinck, December 24, 1811.—John Gurwood, Selections from the Dispatches and General Orders of Field Marshal, the Duke of Wellington, p. 545 (1851).

Government

Until philosophers are kings, or the kings and princes of this world have the spirit and power of philosophy, and political greatness and wisdom meet in one, and those commoner natures who pursue either to the exclusion of the other are compelled to stand aside, cities will never have rest from their evils—no, nor the human race, as I believe—and then only will this our State have a possibility of life and behold the light of day.

Plato

The Republic, V, 473-C

Government

We admit of no government by divine right, the only legitimate right to govern is an express grant of power from the governed.

William Henry Harrison

Government

We are forced, in equity, to share the government with the working class. If there is a free contract, in open market, between capital and labour, it cannot be right that one of the two contracting parties should have the making of the laws, the management of the conditions, the keeping of the peace, the administration of justice, the distribution of taxes, the control of expenditure, in its own hands exclusively. It is unjust that all these securities, all these advantages, should be on the same side….Before this argument the ancient dogma, that power attends on property, broke down. Justice required that property should not abdicate, but share its political supremacy.

Lord Acton (John E.E. Dalberg)

Letter to Mary Gladston, April 24, 1881

Government

We cannot meet it [the threat of dictatorship] if we turn this country into a wishywashy imitation of totalitarianism, where every man's hand is out for pabulum and virile creativeness has given place to the patronizing favor of swollen bureaucracy.

Vannevar Bush, speech at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts, December 5, 1949, as reported by The New York Times, December 6, 1949, p. 12.Bush was president of the Carnegie Institution, Washington, D.C.

Government

We have consecrated the state, that no man should approach to look into its defects or corruptions but with due caution, that he should never dream of beginning its reformation by its subversion; that he should approach to the faults of the state as to the wounds of a father, with pious awe and trembling solicitude.

Edmund Burke

Reflections on the Revolution in France, 1790.

Government

We must judge of a form of government by its general tendency, not by happy accidents.

Thomas Babington Macaulay, speech on parliamentary reform, March 2, 1831.—The Complete Writings of Lord Macaulay, vol. 17, p. 13 (1900).

Government

Were we directed from Washington when to sow, & when to reap, we should soon want bread.

Thomas Jefferson, "Autobiography," The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Paul L. Ford, vol. I, p. 113 (1892).

Government

Whatever government is not a government of laws, is a despotism, let it be called what it may.

Senator Daniel Webster, at a reception in Bangor, Maine, August 25, 1835.—The Writings and Speeches of Daniel Webster vol. 2, p. 165 (1903).

Government

When any of the four pillars of the government, religion, justice, counsel, and treasure, are mainly shaken or weakened, men have need to pray for fair weather.

Francis Bacon

Essays. Of Seditions and Troubles.

Government

When more of the people's sustenance is exacted through the form of taxation than is necessary to meet the just obligations of the government and expenses of its economical administrators, such taxation becomes ruthless extortion and a violation of the fundamental principles of a free Government.

Grover Cleveland

Government

When the people are too much attached to savage independence, to be tolerant of the amount of power to which it is for their good that they should be subject, the state of society (as already observed) is not yet ripe for representative government.

John Stuart Mill, Considerations on Representative Government, chapter 6, p. 108 (1861).

Government

Which is the best government? That which teaches us to govern ourselves.

(Welche Regierung die beste sei? Diejenige, die uns lehrt, uns selbst zu regieren.)

Johann Wolfgang Von Goethe, The Maxims and Reflections of Goethe, trans. Bailey Saunders, maxim 225, p. 107 (1893).

Government

While the people retain their virtue, and vigilance, no administration, by any extreme of wickedness or folly, can very seriously injure the government, in the short space of four years.

President Abraham Lincoln, first inaugural address (final text), March 4, 1861.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P. Basler, vol. 4, p. 270 (1953).

Government

Why should there not ba a patient confidence in the ultimate justice of the people?

Abraham Lincoln

Government

With all these blessings, what more is necessary to make us a happy and prosperous people? Still one thing more, fellow citizens—a wise and frugal government, which shall restrain men from injuring one another, which shall leave them otherwise free to regulate their own pursuits of industry and improvement, and shall not take from the mouth of labor the bread it had earned.

Thomas Jefferson

Government

Yes, Gentlemen; if I am asked why we are free with servitude all around us, why our Habeas Corpus Act has not been suspended, why our press is still subject to no censor, why we still have the liberty of association, why our representative institutions still abide in all their strength, I answer, It is because in the year of revolutions we stood firmly by our government in its peril; and, if I am asked why we stood by our government in its peril, when men all around us were engaged in pulling governments down, I answer, It was because we knew that though our government was not a perfect government, it was a good government, that its faults admitted of peaceable and legal remedies, that it had never inflexibly opposed just demands, that we had obtained concessions of inestimable value, not by beating the drum, not by ringing the tocsin, not by tearing up the pavement, not by running to the gunsmiths' shops to search for arms, but by the mere force of reason and public opinion.

Thomas Babington Macaulay, speech on his re-election to Parliament, November 2, 1852.—Macaulay, Miscellanies, vol. 2 (vol. 18 of The Complete Writings of Lord Macaulay), pp. 170-71 (1900).

Government

You can always get the truth from an American statesman after he has turned seventy or given up hope of the Presidency.

Wendell Phillips

Government

You cannot possibly have a broader basis for any government than that which includes all the people, with all their rights in their hands, and with an equal power to maintain their rights.

William Lloyd Garrison

Government

You have the God-given right to kick the government around—don't hesitate to do so.

Senator Edmund S. Muskie, speech in South Bend, Indiana, September 11, 1968, as reported by the Louisville, Kentucky, Courier-Journal, September 12, 1968, p. A3.

Government by the People

(The State is) the sum of all the negations of the individual liberty of all its members; or rather that of the sacrifices which all its members make, in renouncing one portion of their liberty to the profit of the common good.

Mikhail A. Bakunin

Oeuvres, Vol. I, p. 143; quoted by Adler, The Idea of Freedom, p. 374.

Government by the People

A government for the people must depend for its success on the intelligence, the morality, the justice, and the interest of the people themselves.

Grover Cleveland

Government by the People

Here, sir, the people govern; here they act by their immediate representatives.

Alexander Hamilton, remarks at the New York convention on the adoption of the federal Constitution, Poughkeepsie, New York, June 27, 1788.—Jonathan Elliot, The Debates in the Several State Conventions on the Adoption of the Federal Constitution, vol. 2, p. 348 (1836, reprinted 1937).

Hamilton was referring to the House of Representatives.

Government by the People

I am not of the opinion of those gentlemen who are against disturbing the public repose; I like a clamor wherever there is an abuse. The fire-bell at midnight disturbs our sleep, but it keeps you from being burnt in your bed.

Edmund Burke

Government by the People

It depends on the consent of the people to decide whether kings or consuls or other magistrates are to be established in authority over them, and if there is legitimate cause, the people can change a kingdom into an aristocracy, or an aristocracy into a democracy, and vice versa, as we read was done in Rome.

St. Robert Bellarmine

De Laicis.

Government by the People

My fellow Americans, our long national nightmare is over. Our Constitution works; our great Republic is a government of laws and not of men. Here the people rule. But there is a higher Power, by whatever name we honor Him, who ordains not only righteousness but love, not only justice but mercy.

President Gerald R. Ford, remarks on taking the oath of office, August 9, 1974.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Gerald R. Ford, 1974, p. 2.

Government by the People

No government, based on the naked principle that the majority ought to govern, however true the maxim is in its proper sense, and under proper restriction, can preserve its liberty even for a single generation. The history of all has been the same—violence, injustice, and anarchy, succeeded by the government of one, or a few, under which the people seek refuge from the more oppressive despotism of the many.

John C. Calhoun

Works, VI, 33.

Government by the People

Our present political position has been achieved in a manner unprecedented in the history of nations. It illustrates the American idea that governments rest on the consent of the governed, and that it is the right of the people to alter or abolish them at will whenever they become destructive of the ends for which they were established.

Jefferson Davis, inaugural address as president of the Confederate States of America, Montgomery, Alabama, February 18, 1861.—Jefferson Davis, Constitutionalist, His Letters, Papers and Speeches, ed. Dunbar Rowland, vol. 5, p. 50 (1923).Davis served in Congress 1845-1846 and 1847-1851.

Government by the People

Political power is delegated by the multitude to one or several, for the state cannot of itself exercise this power…and this authority of rulers considered thus in general is both by natural law and by divine law, nor could the entire human race assembled together decree the opposite, that is, that there should be neither rulers nor ruled.

St. Robert Bellarmine

De Laicis.

Government by the People

The best government rests on the people, and not on the few, on persons and not on property, on the free development of public opinion and not on authority.

George Bancroft

Government by the People

The danger is not that a particular class is unfit to govern. Every class is unfit to govern.

Lord Acton (John E. E. Dalberg)

Letter to Mary Gladston, April 24, 1881

Government by the People

The genius of Republican liberty, seems to demand on one side, not only that all power should be derived from the people; but, that those entrusted with it should be kept in dependence on the people, by a short duration of their appointments; and, that, even during this short period, the trust should be placed not in a few, but in a number of hands. Stability, on the contrary, requires, that the hands, in which power is lodged, should continue for a length of time, the same. A frequent change of men will result from a frequent return of electors, and a frequent change of measures, from a frequent change of men; whilst energy in Government requires not only a certain duration of power, but the execution of it by a single hand.

James Madison, The Federalist, ed. Benjamin F. Wright, no. 37, p. 268 (1961).

Government by the People

The only legitimate right to govern is an express grant of power from the governed.

President William Henry Harrison, inaugural address, March 4, 1841.—inaugural Addresses of the Presidents of the United States from George Washington, 1789, to John F Kennedy, 1961, p. 72 (1961). House Doc. 87-218.

This sentence is one of many quotations inscribed on Cox Corridor II, a first floor House corridor, U.S. Capitol.

Government by the People

The people who own the country ought to govern it.

Attributed to John Jay.—Frank Monaghan, John Jay, chapter 15, p. 323 (1935). According to Monaghan, this "was one of his favorite maxims." Unverified in the writings of Jay, although the essence of this is expressed in several passages.

Government by the People

The privileges of a few do not make common law.

St. Jerome

Exposition on Jona

Government by the People

There is but one element of government, and that is THE PEOPLE. From this element spring all governments, "For a nation to be free, it is only necessary that she wills it." For a nation to be slave, it is only necessary that she wills it.

John Adams

To John Taylor, 1814.

Government by the People

To govern according to the sense and agreement of the interests of the people is a great and glorious object of government. This object cannot be obtained but through the medium of popular election, and popular election is a might evil.

Edmund Burke

Speech on the Duration of Parliaments, May 8, 1780.

Government by the People

Where the people possess no authority, their rights obtain no respect.

George Bancroft

To the Workingmen of Northampton, Boston Courier, October 22, 1834.

Government Officials

Decency, security and liberty alike demand that government officials shall be subjected to the same rules of conduct that are commands to the citizen. In a government of laws, existence of the government will be imperilled if it fails to observe the law scrupulously.

Justice Louis D. Brandeis, dissenting, Olmstead et al. v. United States, 277 U.S. 485 (1928).

Government Officials

If ever a nation was debauched by a man, the American nation has been debauched by Washington. If ever a nation has suffered from the improper influence of a man, the American nation has suffered from the influence of Washington. If ever a nation was deceived by a man, the American nation has been deceived by Washington. Let his conduct then be an example to future ages. Let the history of the Federal Government instruct mankind that the masque of patriotism may be worn to conceal the foulest designs against the liberties of the people.

B. F. Bache

Aurora (newspaper).

Government Officials

It is undoubtedly the business of ministers very much to consult the inclinations of the people, but they ought to take great care that they do not receive that inclination from the few persons who may happen to approach them.

Edmund Burke, "Letters on a Regicide Peace," letter 3, 1796-1797, The Works of the Right Honorable Edmund Burke, vol. 5, p. 431 (1899).

Government Spending

A billion here, a billion there, and pretty soon you're talking about real money.

Attributed to Senator Everett M. Dirksen by John Kriegsman, confidant of Dirksen's and one-time Republican official in Illinois. Kriegsman reportedly heard this and similar statements as off-the-cuff remarks during campaigns and meetings in Illinois. This remark does not appear in any formal address or in Dirksen's papers.

Government Spending

Any Government, like any family, can for a year spend a little more than it earns. But you and I know that a continuation of that habit means the poorhouse.

Franklin D. Roosevelt, governor of New York, radio speech discussing the national Democratic platform, July 30, 1932.—The Public Papers and Addresses of Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1928-1932, p. 663 (1938).

Government Spending

Countries, therefore, when lawmaking falls exclusively to the lot of the poor cannot hope for much economy in public expenditure; expenses will always be considerable, either because taxes cannot touch those who vote for them or because they are assessed in a way to prevent that.

Alexis de Tocqueville, Democracy in America, ed. J. P. Mayer trans. George Lawrence, vol. 1, part 2, chapter 5, p. 210 (1969). Originally published in 1835-1840.

Government Spending

Four things greater than all things are,—

Women and Horses and Power and War.

Rudyard Kipling,

"The Ballad of the King's Jest," stanza 5,

The Collected Works of Rudyard Kipling:

Departmental Ditties and Barrack-Room Ballads,

vol. 25, p. 234 (1941, reprinted 1970).

Government Spending

Great men are the guideposts and landmarks in the state.

Edmund Burke, speech on American taxation, House of Commons, April 19, 1774.—The Works of the Right Honorable Edmund Burke, vol. 2, p. 65 (1899).

Government Spending

He smote the rock of the national resources, and abundant streams of revenue gushed forth. He touched the dead corpse of the Public Credit, and it sprung upon its feet. The fabled birth of Minerva, from the brain of Jove, was hardly more sudden or more perfect than the financial system of the United States, as it burst forth from the conceptions of Alexander Hamilton.

Senator Daniel Webster, speech at a dinner in New York City, March 10, 1831.—The Writings and Speeches of Daniel Webster vol. 2, p. 50 (1903).

Government Spending

He was a foe without hate; a friend without treachery; a soldier without cruelty; a victor without oppression, and a victim without murmuring. He was a public officer without vices; a private citizen without wrong; a neighbor without reproach; a Christian without hypocrisy, and a man without guile. He was a Caesar, without his ambition; Frederick, without his tyranny; Napoleon, without his selfishness, and Washington, without his reward.

Benjamin Harvey Hill, Sr., address before the Southern Historical Society, Atlanta, Georgia, February 18, 1874.—Benjamin H. Hill, Jr., Senator Benjamin H. Hill of Georgia; His Life, Speeches and Writings, p. 406 (1893). These words were spoken about Robert E. Lee.

Hill served in Congress 1875-1882.

Government Spending

I am against bigness and greatness in all their forms, and with the invisible molecular moral forces that work from individual to individual, stealing in through the crannies of the world like so many soft rootlets, or like the capillary oozing of water and yet rending the hardest monuments of man's pride, if you give them time. The bigger the unit you deal with, the hollower the more brutal, the more mendacious is the life displayed. So I am against all big organizations as such, national ones first and foremost; against all big successes and big results; and in favor of the eternal forces of truth which always work in the individual and immediately unsuccessful way, under-dogs always, till history comes, after they are long dead, and puts them on top.—You need take no notice of these ebullitions of spleen, which are probably quite unintelligible to anyone but myself.

William James, letter to Mrs. Henry Whitman, June 7, 1899.—The Letters of William James, ed. Henry James, vol. 2, p. 90 (1926).

Government Spending

I do not admire a virtue like valour when it is pushed to excess, if I do not see at the same time the excess of the opposite virtue, as one does in Epaminondas, who displayed extreme valour and extreme benevolence. For otherwise it is not an ascent, but a fall. We do not display our greatness by placing ourselves at one extremity, but rather by being at both at the same time, and filling up the whole of the space between them.

Blaise Pascal, Pascal's Pensèes, trans. Martin Turnell, part 1, section 6, p. 164 (1962).

Government Spending

I favor the policy of economy, not because I wish to save money, but because I wish to save people. The men and women of this country who toil are the ones who bear the cost of the Government. Every dollar that we carelessly waste means that their life will be so much the more meager. Every dollar that we prudently save means that their life will be so much the more abundant. Economy is idealism in its most practical form.

President Calvin Coolidge, inaugural address, March 4, 1925.—Coolidge, Foundations of the Republic, p. 201 (1926).

Government Spending

I sought for the greatness and genius of America in her commodious harbors and her ample rivers—and it was not there…in her fertile fields and boundless forests—and it was not there…in her rich mines and her vast world commerce—and it was not there….In her democratic Congress and her matchless Constitution—and it was not there. Not until I went into the churches of America and heard her pulpits flame with righteousness did I understand the secret of her genius and power. America is great because she is good, and if America ever ceases to be good, America will cease to be great.

Attributed to Alexis de Tocqueville by Dwight D. Eisenhower in his final campaign address in Boston, Massachusetts, November 3, 1952. Unverified.

The last two sentences are attributed to de Tocqueville's Democracy in America by Sherwood Eddy, The Kingdom of God and the American Dream, chapter I, p. 6 (1941). This appears with minor variations in A Third Treasury of the Familiar ed. Ralph L. Woods, p. 347 (1970), as "attributed to de Tocqueville but not found in his works."

Government Spending

I think this is the most extraordinary collection of talent, of human knowledge, that has ever been gathered together at the White House, with the possible exception of when Thomas Jefferson dined alone.

President John F. Kennedy, remarks at a dinner honoring Nobel prize winners of the Western Hemisphere, April 29, 1962.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: John F Kennedy, 1962, p. 347.

Government Spending

If the Nation is living within its income, its credit is good. If, in some crises, it lives beyond its income for a year or two, it can usually borrow temporarily at reasonable rates. But if, like a spendthrift, it throws discretion to the winds, and is willing to make no sacrifice at all in spending; if it extends its taxing to the limit of the people's power to pay and continues to pile up deficits, then it is on the road to bankruptcy.

Franklin D. Roosevelt, governor of New York, campaign address on the federal budget, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, October 19, 1932.—The Public Papers and Addresses of Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1928-1932, p. 797 (1938).

Government Spending

If we are to be a really great people, we must strive in good faith to play a great part in the world. We cannot avoid meeting great issues. All that we can determine for ourselves is whether we shall meet them well or ill.

Theodore Roosevelt, governor of New York, speech before the Hamilton Club, Chicago, Illinois, April 10, 1899.—The Strenuous Life (vol. 13 of The Works of Theodore Roosevelt, national ed.), chapter 1, p. 322 (1926).

Government Spending

It is the duty of those serving the people in public place closely to limit public expenditures to the actual needs of the government economically administered, because this bounds the right of the government to extract tribute from the earnings of labor or the property of the citizen, and because public extravagance begets extravagance among the people. We should never be ashamed of the simplicity and prudential economies which are best suited to the operation of a republican form of government and most compatible with the mission of the American people. Those who are selected for a limited time to manage public affairs are still of the people, and may do much by their example to encourage, consistently with the diginity of their official functions, that plain way of life which among their fellow-citizens aids integrity and promotes thrift and prosperity.

President Grover Cleveland, first inaugural address, March 4, 1885.—The Writings and Speeches of Grover Cleveland, ed. George F. Parker, p. 35 (1892).

Government Spending

Let every man or woman here, if you never hear me again, remember this, that if you wish to be great at all, you must begin where you are and what you are, in Philadelphia, now. He that can give to his city any blessing, he who can be a good citizen while he lives here, he that can make better homes, he that can be a blessing whether he works in the shop or sits behind the counter or keeps house, whatever be his life, he who would be great anywhere must first be great in his own Philadelphia.

Russell H. Conwell, Acres of Diamonds, p. 59 (1915).Conwell gave this public address more than 6,000 times from 1877 until his death in 1925. He tailored his speech to individual cities by changing Philadelphia, his home town, to the name of the city where he was speaking.

Government Spending

Lord, the money we do spend on Government and it's not one bit better than the government we got for one-third the money twenty years ago.

Will Rogers.—Paula McSpadden Love, The Will Rogers Book, p. 20 (1972). Paula McSpadden Love was a niece of Will Rogers's and curator of the Will Rogers Memorial in Claremore, Oklahoma.

Government Spending

No one should be astonished if in the following discussion of completely new princedoms and of the prince and of government, I bring up the noblest examples. Because, since men almost always walk in the paths beaten by others and carry on their affairs by imitating—even though it is not possible to keep wholly in the paths of others or to attain the ability of those you imitate—a prudent man will always choose to take paths beaten by great men and to imitate those who have been especially admirable, in order that if his ability does not reach theirs, at least it may offer some suggestion of it; and he will act like prudent archers, who, seeing that the mark they plan to hit is too far away and knowing what space can be covered by the power of their bows, take an aim much higher than their mark, not in order to reach with their arrows so great a height, but to be able, with the aid of so high an aim, to attain their purpose.

Niccolo Machiavelli, The Prince, chapter 6.—Machiavelli, the Chief Works and Others, trans. Allan Gilbert, vol. 1, pp. 24-25 (1965).

Government Spending

No; no; not a sixpence.

Charles Cotesworth Pinckney, American minister to France, letter to Timothy Pickering, October 27, 1797, relating the American response to a French request for a tribute or bribe.—State Papers and Publick Documents of the United States, 3d ed., vol. 3, p. 492 (1819). The French had seized several American ships.The wording of this quotation usually reads: "…not a penny." For further discussion of the wording used by Pinckney and of the quotation frequently but mistakenly attributed to Pinckney—"Millions for defense, but not one cent for tribute," actually said by Robert Goodloe Harper—see The Home Book of Quotations, ed. Burton Stevenson, 10th ed., p. 63 (1967) and "Notes and Queries," South Carolina Historical and Genealogical Magazine, vol. 1, pp. 100-103, 178-79 (1901).

Government Spending

None of us really understands what's going on with all these numbers.

David Stockman, director Office Of Management and Budget.—William Greider "The Education of David Stockman," The Atlantic Monthly, December 1981, p. 38.

He served in Congress 1977-1981.

Government Spending

Not he is great who can alter matter but he who can alter my state of mind.

Ralph Waldo Emerson, "The American Scholar" oration delivered before the Phi Beta Kappa Society, Cambridge, Massachusetts, August 31, 1837.—Nature, Addresses and Lectures (vol. 3 of The Works of Ralph Waldo Emerson), p. 100 (1906).

Government Spending

Nothing is easier than spending the public money. It does not appear to belong to anybody. The temptation is overwhelming to bestow it on somebody.

Attributed to Calvin Coolidge.—Readers Digest, June 1960, p. 178. Unverified.

Government Spending

So that here we have, really, the compound, the overall philosophy of Lincoln: in all those things which deal with people, be liberal, be human. In all those things which deal with the people's money or their economy, or their form of government, be conservative-and don't be afraid to use the word.

And so today, Republicans come forward with programs in which there are such words as "balanced budgets," and "cutting expenditures," and all the kind of thing that means this economy must be conservative, it must be solvent.

But they also come forward and say we are concerned with every American's health, with a decent house for him, we are concerned that he will have a chance for health, and his children for education. We are going to see that he has power available to him. We are going to see that everything takes place that will enrich his life and let him as an individual, hard-working American citizen, have full opportunity to do for his children and his family what any decent American should want to do.

President Dwight D. Eisenhower, remarks at Lincoln Day box supper Washington, D.C., February 5, 1954.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Dwight D. Eisenhower, 1954, p. 242.

Government Spending

That most delicious of all privileges—spending other people's money.

John Randolph of Roanoke.—William Cabell Bruce, John Randolph of Roanoke, 1773-1833, vol. 2, chapter 7, p. 204 (1922, reprinted 1970).Randolph was a member of Congress 1799-1813, 1815-1817, and 1819-1829.

Government Spending

The appropriation of public money always is perfectly lovely until some one is asked to pay the bill. If we are to have a billion dollars of navy, half a billion of farm relief, [etc.]…the people will have to furnish more revenue by paying more taxes. It is for them, through their Congress, to decide how far they wish to go.

Calvin Coolidge, syndicated column, New York Herald Tribune, August 5, 1930, p. 1.

Government Spending

The budget should be balanced, the treasury should be refilled, public debt should be reduced, the arrogance of officialdom should be tempered and controlled, assistance to foreign lands should be curtailed lest Rome become bankrupt, the mobs should be forced to work and not depend on government for subsistence.

Attributed to Marcus Tullius Cicero,

Congressional Record, April 25, 1968,

vol. 114, p. 10635.

This passage was reprinted in U.S. News & World Report,

July 29, 1968, p. 15. Still later a contributor reported this to

The Review of the News, June 30, 1971, p. 19, and he also

attributed this to Cicero. No evidence has been found to confirm

that Cicero said these words, and it is almost certainly spurious.

Government Spending

The same prudence which in private life would forbid our paying our own money for unexplained projects, forbids it in the dispensation of the public moneys.

President Thomas Jefferson, letter to Shelton Gilliam, June 19, 1808.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Andrew A. Lipscomb, vol. 12, p. 73 (1903).

Government Spending

There are four categories of voting on the floor of the Senate. The first are those who have been described as ones who can hear the farthest drum before the cry of a single hungry child. Then there is the group who can hear every child, whether he is hungry or not, before they can hear a single drum. Then you have a third group, who say, "Nothing can happen to the almighty dollar, so we will vote for all the children and all the drums." The time has come when we must have some priorities with respect to the way we are allocating our steadily decreasing resources, else it should be clear to everybody—that the economy of the United States could well be destroyed.

Senator Stuart Symington, remarks in the Senate, November 23, 1971.—Congressional Record, vol. 117, p. 2896.The theme of this was used earlier by Herbert Block, Herblock Gallery, p. 9 (1968): "This is particularly true of those bellicose Republican 'conservatives' and Dixiecrats who are more ready to lay down lives than prejudices and who can hear the most distant drum more clearly than the cry of a hungry child in the street."

Government Spending

There are some men who lift the age they inhabit, till all men walk on higher ground in that lifetime.

Maxwell Anderson, Valley Forge, act II, scene ii, p. 92 (1937). Mary Philipse is referring to George Washington.

Government Spending

There aren't any great men. There are just great challenges that ordinary men like you and me are forced by circumstances to meet.

Attributed to Admiral William F. Halsey. Unverified. Though these words have not been found as spoken by Halsey, they were said by James Cagney, portraying Halsey, in the United Artists film version of Halsey's life, The Gallant Hours (dialogue continuity, p. 38), 1960 Cagney-Montgomery Productions, Inc.

Government Spending

There be three things which make a nation great and prosperous: a fertile soil, busy workshops, easy conveyance for men and goods from place to place.

Sir Francis Bacon. This sentence was inscribed on one side of the Golden Door of the Transportation Building at the World's Columbian Exposition held in Chicago in 1893.

Government Spending

There is no doubt that many expensive national projects may add to our prestige or serve science. But none of them must take precedence over human needs. As long as Congress does not revise its priorities, our crisis is not just material, it is a crisis of the spirit.

Nelson A. Rockefeller, governor of New York, letter to Mayor John V. Lindsay, April 24, 1971.—The New York Times, April 25, 1971, p. 69.This letter concerned New York City's financial problems.

Government Spending

There was never a nation great until it came to the knowledge that it had nowhere in the world to go for help.

Charles Dudley Warner, "Comments on Canada," section 3, Studies in the South and West with Comments on Canada, p. 483 (1889).

Government Spending

This is the bare chronology of as great an American as ever lived. Ton thousand pages would be required to fill in the full story of his talents, his genius and his impact upon the foundation of America. He was ever the subject of white-heat controversy—in death even as in life. But for myself, summing it all up, I say that five words might be his epitaph: THE REPUBLIC IS HIS MONUMENT.

Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg, "Story of Alexander Hamilton as Told by Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg," The Sons of the American Revolution Magazine, February 1950, p. 9. Also Congressional Record, February 24, 1950, vol. 96, Appendix, p. A1378.

Government Spending

We are endeavoring, too, to reduce the government to the practice of a rigorous economy, to avoid burdening the people, and arming the magistrate with a patronage of money, which might be used to corrupt and undermine the principles of our government.

President Thomas Jefferson, letter to Mr. Pictet, February 5, 1803.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Andrew A. Lipscomb, vol. 10, pp. 356-57 (1903).

Government—Definition of

Government is a contrivance of human wisdom to provide for human wants. Men have a right that these wants should be provided for by this wisdom.

Edmund Burke, "Reflections on the Revolution in France," 1790, The Works of the Right Honorable Edmund Burke, vol. 3, p. 310 (1899).

Government—Definition of

Government is like a big baby—an alimentary canal with a big appetite at one end and no sense of responsibility at the other.

Ronald Reagan, governor of California, joke during 1965 campaign for governor.—The Reagan Wit, ed. Bill Adler, p. 30 (1981). Quoted lacking "sense of" in The New York Times Magazine, November 14, 1965, p. 174, as a typical wisecrack.

Government—Definition of

If any ask me what a free government is, I answer, that, for any practical purpose, it is what the people think so,—and that they, and not I, are the natural, lawful, and competent judges of this matter.

Edmund Burke, letter to the sheriffs of Bristol, April 3, 1777.—The Works of the Right Honorable Edmund Burke, vol. 2, p. 227 (1899).

Government—Purpose of

Government should not be made an end in itself; it is a means only,—a means to be freely adapted to advance the best interests of the social organism. The State exists for the sake of Society, not Society for the sake of the State.

Woodrow Wilson, The State; Elements of Historical and Practical Politics, rev. ed., chapter 16, section 1528, p. 636 (1911).

Government—Purpose of

He mocks the people who proposes that the Government shall protect the rich and that they in turn will care for the laboring poor.

Grover Cleveland

Annual Message to Congress, 1888.

Government—Purpose of

If, in my retirement to the humble station of a private citizen, I am accompanied with the esteem and approbation of my fellow citizens, trophies obtained by the blood-stained steel, or the tattered flags of the tented field, will never be envied. The care of human life and happiness, and not their destruction, is the first and only legitimate object of good government.

Thomas Jefferson, letter to the Republican Citizens of Washington County, Maryland, March 31, 1809.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. H.A. Washington, vol. 8, p. 165 (1871).

Government—Purpose of

It is customary in democratic countries to deplore expenditure on armaments as conflicting with the requirements of the social services. There is a tendency to forget that the most important social service that a government can do for its people is to keep them alive and free.

Sir John Cotesworth Slessor, marshal of the Royal Air Force, Strategy for the West, chapter 4, p. 75 (1954).

Government—Purpose of

It is only the novice in political economy who thinks it is the duty of government to make its citizens happy.—Government has no such office. To protect the weak and the minority from the impositions of the strong and the majority—to prevent any one from positively working to render the people unhappy, (if we may so express it,) to do the labor not of an officious inter-meddler in the affairs of men, but of a prudent watchman who prevents outrage—these are rather the proper duties of a government. Under the specious pretext of effecting "the happiness of the whole community," nearly all the wrongs and intrusions of government have been carried through. The legislature may, and should, when such things fall in its way, lend its potential weight to the cause of virtue and happiness—but to legislate in direct behalf of those objects is never available, and rarely effects any even temporary benefit.

Walt Whitman, "Duties of Government," editorial, Brooklyn Eagle, April 4, 1846.—Whitman, The Gathering of the Forces, ed. Cleveland Rodgers and John Black, vol. 1, pp. 56-57 (1920).

Government—Purpose of

The business of government is not directly to make the people rich, but to protect them in making themselves rich; and a government which attempts more than this is precisely the government which is likely to perform less. Governments do not and cannot support the people.

Thomas Babington Macaulay, speech on parliamentary reform, March 2, 1831.—The Complete Writings of Lord Macaulay, vol. 17, p. 39 (1900).

Government—Purpose of

The chief duty of governments, in so far as they are coercive, is to restrain those who would interfere with the inalienable rights of the individual, among which are the right to life, the right to liberty, the right to the pursuit of happiness and the right to worship God according to the dictates of one's conscience.

William Jennings Bryan, secretary of state, speech before the City Club, Baltimore, Maryland, April 24, 1915.—"Bryan's Ten Rules for the New Voter," rule 3, The Sun, Baltimore, Maryland, April 25, 1915, p. 16.

Bryan prepared the ten rules as a synopsis of his speech so the newspapers might get the exact sense of it.

Government—Purpose of

The legitimate object of government, is to do for a community of people, whatever they need to have done, but can not do, at all, or can not, so well do, for themselves—in their separate, and individual capacities.

In all that the people can individually do as well for themselves, government ought not to interfere.

The desirable things which the individuals of a people can not do, or can not well do, for themselves, fall into two classes: those which have relation to wrongs, and those which have not. Each of these branch off into an infinite variety of subdivisions.

The first—that in relation to wrongs—embraces all crimes, misdemeanors, and nonperformance of contracts. The other embraces all which, in its nature, and without wrong, requires combined action, as public roads and highways, public schools, charities, pauperism, orphanage, estates of the deceased, and the machinery of government itself.

From this it appears that if all men were just, there still would be some, though not so much, need for government.

Abraham Lincoln, fragment on government (July 1, 1854?)—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P. Basler, vol. 2, pp. 220-21 (1953).

Government—Purpose of

The lessons of paternalism ought to be unlearned and the better lesson taught that while the people should patriotically and cheerfully support their Government, its functions do not include the support of the people.

President Grover Cleveland, second inaugural address, March 4, 1893.—A Compilation of the Messages and Papers of the Presidents, 1789-189, comp. James D. Richardson, vol. 9, p. 390 (1898).

Government—Purpose of

The main objects of all science, the freedom and happiness of man…. [are] the sole objects of all legitimate government.

Thomas Jefferson, letter to General Thaddeus Kosciusko, February 26, 1810.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Andrew A. Lipscomb, vol. 12, pp. 369-70 (1904).

In the stairwell of the pedestal of the Statue of Liberty is a plaque inscribed with this quotation, lacking the first clause above.

Government—Purpose of

The safety and happiness of society are the objects at which all political institutions aim, and to which all such institutions must be sacrificed.

James Madison, The Federalist, ed. Benjamin F. Wright, no. 43, p. 316 (1961).

These words are inscribed in the Madison Memorial Hall, Library of Congress James Madison Memorial Building.

Government—Purpose of

The ultimate aim of government is not to rule, or restrain, by fear, nor to exact obedience, but contrariwise, to free every man from fear, that he may live in all possible security; in other words, to strengthen his natural right to exist and work without injury to himself or others.

No, the object of government is not to change men from rational beings into beasts or puppets, but to enable them to develop their minds and bodies in security, and to employ their reason unshackled; neither showing hatred, angel, or deceit, nor watched with the eyes of jealousy and injustice. In fact, the true aim of government is liberty.

Benedictus de Spinoza,

"Tractatus Theologico-Politicus,"

Writings on Political Philosophy,

ed. A. G. A. Balz, trans. R. H. M. Elwes,

p. 65 (1937). Other translations vary.

Government—Purpose of

We all know of course that we cannot abolish all the evils in this world by statute or by the enforcement of statutes, nor can we prevent the inexorable law of nature which decrees that suffering shall follow vice, and all the evil passions and folly of mankind. Law cannot give to depravity the rewards of virtue, to indolence the rewards of industry, to indifference the rewards of ambition, or to ignorance the rewards of learning. The utmost that government can do is measurably to protect men, not against the wrong they do themselves but against wrong done by others and to promote the long, slow process of educating mind and character to a better knowledge and nobler standards of life and conduct. We know all this, but when we see how much misery there is in the world and instinctively cry out against it, and when we see some things that government may do to mitigate it, we are apt to forget how little after all it is possible for any government to do, and to hold the particular government of the time and place to a standard of responsibility which no government can possibly meet.

Elihu Root, Experiments in Government and the Essentials of the Constitution, pp. 13-14 (1913). The Stafford Little Lectures given at Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey, 1913.

Government—Separation of Powers

History is simply a piece of paper covered with print; the main thing is still to make history, not to write it.

Otto von Bismarck-Schoenhausen

Government—Separation of Powers

In all tyrannical governments the supreme magistracy, or the right both of making and of enforcing the laws, is vested in one and the same man, or one and the same body of men; and wherever these two powers are united together there can be no public liberty.

Sir William Blackstone, Commentaries on the Laws of England, 9th ed., book 1, chapter 2, p. 146 (1783, reprinted 1978).

Government—Separation of Powers

It is important, likewise, that the habits of thinking in a free Country should inspire caution in those entrusted with its administration, to confine themselves within their respective Constitutional Spheres; avoiding in the exercise of the Powers of one department to encroach upon another.

President George Washington, farewell address, September 19, 1796.—The Writings of George Washington, ed. John C. Fitzpatrick, vol. 35, p. 228 (1940).

Government—Separation of Powers

The accumulation of all powers, legislative, executive, and judiciary, in the same hands, whether of one, a few, or many, and whether hereditary, self-appointed, or elective, may justly be pronounced the very definition of tyranny.

James Madison, The Federalist, ed. Benjamin F. Wright, no. 47, p. 336 (1961).

Government—Separation of Powers

The doctrine of the separation of powers was adopted by the Convention of 1787, not to promote efficiency but to preclude the exercise of arbitrary power. The purpose was, not to avoid friction, but, by means of the inevitable friction incident to the distribution of the governmental powers among three departments, to save the people from autocracy.

Justice Louis D. Brandeis, dissenting, Myers v. United States, 272 U.S. 293 (1926).

Government—Separation of Powers

To admit then a right in the House of Representatives to demand, and to have as a matter of course, all the Papers respecting a negotiation with a foreign power would be to establish a dangerous precedent. It does not occur that the inspection of the papers asked for can be relative to any purpose under the cognizance of the House of Representatives, except that of an impeachment, which the resolution has not expressed. I repeat, that I have no disposition to withhold any information which the duty of my station will permit, or the public good shall require to be disclosed: and in fact, all the Papers affecting the negotiation with Great Britain were laid before the Senate, when the Treaty itself was communicated for their consideration and advice. The course which the debate has taken, on the resolution of the House, leads to some observations on the mode of making treaties under the Constitution of the United States.

President George Washington, address to the House of Representatives, March 30, 1796.—The Writings of George Washington, ed. John C. Fitzpatrick, vol. 35, p. 3 (1940).Washington refused to provide papers relating to the Jay Treaty, since the assent of the House was unnecessary.

Government—Separation of Powers

You ask, how has it happened that all Europe has acted on the principle, "that Power was Right"….Power always sincerely, conscientiously, de tres bon foi, believes itself right…. Power must never be trusted without a check.

John Adams

To Jefferson, February 2, 1816.

Government—Citizen Participation

And so, my fellow Americans: ask not what your country can do for you—ask what you can do for your country. My fellow citizens of the world: ask not what America will do for you, but what together we can do for the freedom of man.

President John F. Kennedy, inaugural address, January 20, 1961.—The Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: John F Kennedy, 1961, p. 3.This is one of seven inscriptions carved on the walls at the gravesite of John F. Kennedy, Arlington National Cemetery.

He foreshadowed this remark earlier: "But the New Frontier of which I speak is not a set of promises—it is a set of challenges. It sums up not what I intend to offer the American people, but what I intend to ask of them."—Acceptance speech, Democratic national convention, Los Angeles, California, July 15, 1960, Vital Speeches of the Day, August 1, 1960, p. 611.

Government—Citizen Participation

Are you a politician asking what your country can do for you or a zealous one asking what you can do for your country? If you are the first, then you are a parasite; if the second, then you are an oasis in the desert.

Kahlil Gibran.—A Third Treasury of Kahlil Gibran, ed. Andrew Dib Sherfan, p. 53 (1975)."This statement appeared in an article written by Gibran in Arabic, over fifty years ago. The heading of that article can be translated either The New Deal or The New Frontier" (p. 52).

The following translation was made before John F. Kennedy's 1961 inaugural address:Are you a politician who says to himself: "I will use my country for my own benefit"? If so, you are naught but a parasite living on the flesh of others. Or are you a devoted patriot, who whispers into the ear of his inner self: "I love to serve my country as a faithful servant." If so, you are an oasis in the desert, ready to quench the thirst of the wayfarer.—Kahlil Gibran, The Voice of the Master; trans. Anthony R. Ferris, p. 34 (1958).

Government—Citizen Participation

I like people in the cities, in the States and in the Nation to ask themselves now and then: "What can I do for my city?" not "How much can I get out of my city?" I like people to speak now and then in the same devotion to State and Nation, because, after all, my countrymen, whenever a man contributes to the betterment of his community, whenever he contributes to the enlarged influence of his State, whenever he contributes to the greater glory of the Republic and makes it a better place in which to live and in which to invite men to participate and aspire, he contributes to himself as he contributes to the welfare of his fellow men.

President Warren G. Harding, address at the laying of the cornerstone of the City Club Building, St. Louis, Missouri, June 21, 1923.—Speeches and Addresses of Warren G. Harding, President of the United States,…1923, p. 31 (1923).

Government—Citizen Participation

In our own lives, let each of us ask—not just what government will do for me, but what can I do for myself?

President Richard M. Nixon, second inaugural address, January 20, 1973.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Richard Nixon, 1973, p. 14.

Government—Citizen Participation

It is now the moment when by common consent we pause to become conscious of our national life and to rejoice in it, to recall what our country has done for each of us, and to ask ourselves what we can do for our country in return.

Oliver Wendell Holmes, justice of the supreme court of Massachusetts, Memorial Day speech, May 30, 1884, Keene, New Hampshire.—Holmes, Speeches, pp. 2-3 (1934).

Government—Citizen Participation

The value of government to the people it serves is in direct relationship to the interest citizens themselves display in the affairs of state.

Attributed to William Scranton, governor of Pennsylvania. Unverified.

Grandmothers

A grandmother is a person with too much wisdom to let that stop her from making a fool of herself over her grandchildren.

Phil Moss

Gratitude

Blessings we enjoy daily, and for the most of them, because they be so common, men forget to pay their praises.—But let not us, because it is a sacrifice so pleasing to him who still protects us, and gives us flowers, and showers, and meat, and content.

Izaak Walton

Gratitude

Gratitude expressed to others is a balm of sweetness that makes life more pleasant.

Eva Arrington

Gratitude

Gratitude is the fairest blossom which springs from the soul; and the heart of man knoweth none more fragrant.

Hosea Ballou

Gratitude

Gratitude is the sign of noble souls.

Aesop

Great Quotations

Errare humanum est.

To err is human.

Anonymous Latin Saying

Great Quotations

A great many people think they are thinking when they are merely rearranging their prejudices.

William James

Great Quotations

And what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?

The Bible (Micah 6:8)

Great Quotations

Are we to mark this day with a white or a black stone?

Miguel de Cervantes

Don Quixote, pt. II, III, 10, 503

Great Quotations

Better three hours too soon than a minute too late.

William Shakespeare

The Merry Wives of Windsor, II, ii, 332

Great Quotations

Can we ever have too much of a good thing?

Miguel de Cervantes

Don Quixote, Pt. I, I, 6, 37

Great Quotations

Do not take life too seriously. You will never get out of it alive.

Elbert Hubbard

Great Quotations

Friends, Romans, countrymen, lend me your ears;

I come to bury Caesar, not to praise him.

The evil that men do lives after them,

The good is oft interred with their bones.

William Shakespeare

Julius Caesar, III, ii, 79

Great Quotations

Haste maketh waste.

John Heywood

Proverbs, pt. I, ch. 2

Great Quotations

He hath eaten me out of house and home.

William Shakespeare

King Henry IV, II, II, i, 82

Great Quotations

He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone.

Jesus Christ

Great Quotations

He who hates vices hates mankind.

Thrasea

Great Quotations

I am a man; nothing human is alien to me.

Terence

Great Quotations

Is this a dagger which I see before me,

The handle toward my hand? Come, let me clutch thee:

I have thee not, and yet I see thee still.

Art thou not, fatal vision, sensible

To feeling as to sight? or art thou but

A dagger of the mind, a false creation,

Proceeding from the heat-oppressed brain?

William Shakespeare

Macbeth, II, i, 33

Great Quotations

It is equally wrong to speed a guest who does not want to go, and to keep one back who is eager. You ought to make welcome the present guest, and send forth the one who wishes to go.

Homer

The Odyssey XV, 72

Great Quotations

No, 'tis not so deep as a well, nor so wide as a church door, but 'tis enough, 'twill serve: ask for me tomorrow, and you shall find me a grave man.

William Shakespeare

Romeo and Juliet, III, i, 101

Great Quotations

Now blessing light on him that first invented this same sleep! It covers a man all over, thoughts and all, like a cloak; 'tis meat for the hungry, drink for the thirsty, heat for the cold, and cold for the hot. 'Tis the current coin that purchases all the pleasures of the world cheap; and the balance that sets the king and the shepherd, the fool and the wise man even.

Miguel de Cervantes

Don Quixote, pt. II, IV, 68, 898

Great Quotations

Power tends to corrupt and absolute power corrupts absolutely.

Lord Acton

Great Quotations

They are as sick that surfeit with too much as they that starve with nothing.

William Shakespeare

The Merchant of Venice, I, ii, 5

Great Quotations

To be, or not to be: that is the question:

Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to suffer

The slings and arrows of outrageous fortune,

Or to take arms against a sea of troubles,

And by opposing end them? To die: to sleep;

No more; and, by a sleep to say we end

The heartache and the thousand natural shocks

That flesh is heir to, 'tis a consummation

Devoutly to be wish'd. To die, to sleep;

To sleep: perchance to dream: ay, there's the rub;

For in that sleep of death what dreams may come,

When we have shuffled off this mortal coil,

Must give us pause. There's the respect

That makes calamity of so long life;

For who would bear the whips and scorns of time,

The oppressor's wrong, the proud man's contumely,

The pangs of dispriz'd love, the law's delay,

The insolence of office, and the spurns

That patient merit of the unworthy takes,

When he himself might his quietus make

With a bare bodkin? who would fardels bear,

To grunt and sweat under a weary life,

But that the dread of something after death,

The undiscover'd country from whose bourn

No traveler returns, puzzles the will,

And makes us rather bear those ills we have

Than fly to others that we know not of?

Thus conscience does make cowards of us all;

And thus the native hue of resolution

Is sicklied o'er with the pale cast of thought,

And enterprises of great pith and moment

With this regard their currents turn awry,

And lost the name of action.

William Shakespeare

Hamlet, III, i, 56

Great Quotations

What is honored in a country will be cultivated there.

Plato

Great Quotations

What you do not want done to yourself, do not do to others.

Confucius

The Confucian Analects, 15:23

Great Quotations

Who is worse shod than the shoemaker's wife?

John Heywood

Proverbs, Pt. I, Ch. 11

Great Quotations

Who shall guard the guardians themselves?

Juvenal

Greatness

A good man dies when a boy goes wrong.

Author Unknown

Greatness

A great man is made up of qualities that meet or make great occasions.

James Russell Lowell

Greatness

A solemn and religious regard to spiritual and eternal things is an indispensable element of all true greatness.

Daniel Webster

Greatness

All great men come out of the middle classes.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Conduct of Life (1860), "considerations by the Way"

Greatness

Be not afraid of greatness: some are born great, some achieve greatness and some have greatness thrust upon 'em.

William Shakespeare

Greatness

Don't wait to be a great man—be a great boy.

Author Unknown

Greatness

For you are not to suppose, brethren, that heresies could be produced through any little souls. None save great men have been the authors of heresies.

St. Augustine

Greatness

Greatness lies not in being strong, but the right use of strength.

Henry Ward Beecher

Greatness

Greatness of name in the father oft-times overwhelms the son; they stand too near one another. The shadow kills the growth: so much, that we see the grandchild come more and oftener to be heir of the first.

Ben Jonson

Timber; or, Discoveries Made Upon Men and Matter

Greatness

If a man was great while living, he becomes tenfold greater when dead.

Thomas Carlyle

Heroes and Hero Worship

Greatness

If my resolution to be a great man was half so strong as it is to despise the shame of being a little one…

William Cowper

Greatness

In my stars I am above thee, but be not afraid of greatness. Some are born great, some achieve greatness, and some have greatness thrust upon 'em.

William Shakespeare, Twelfth Night, act II, scene v, lines 155-59. Malvolio is speaking.

Greatness

It is a rough road that leads to the heights of greatness.

Lucius Annaeus Seneca

Epistles, 84, 13

Greatness

Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Essays: First Series (1841), "Circles"

Greatness

Nothing is more simple than greatness; indeed, to be simple is to be great.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Greatness

The abuse of greatness is when it disjoins

Remorse from power.

William Shakespeare

Julius Caesar, II, i, 18

Greatness

The great are great only because we are on our knees.

Pierre Joseph Proudhon

Greatness

The man of worth is really great without being proud; the mean man is proud without being really great.

Wisdom of the Chinese

Greatness

The true test of a great man—that, at least, which must secure his place among the highest order of great men—is his having been in advance of his age.

Henry Peter Brougham

Greatness

To become a great man it is necessary to be a great rascal.

Guillaume Dubois (1656-1723)

Attributed

Greatness

[The sage] never strives himself for the great, and thereby the great is achieved.

Lao Tzu

The Way of Lao Tzu 34

Greed

Old proverb say,

That bird is not honest

That filleth his own nest.

John Skelton

Poems Against Garnesche

Greed

From the first day to this, sheer greed was the driving spirit of civilization.

Friedrich Engels (1820-1895)

The Origin of the Family (1894)

Greed

The miser is as much in want of what he has as of what he has not.

Publilius Syrus

Greed

There is no calamity greater that lavish desires.

There is no greater guilt than discontentment.

And there is no greater disaster than greed.

Lao Tzu

The Way Of Lao Tzu 46

Greed

They (Americans) must win gold, predominance, power; crush rivals, subdue nature. They have their hearts set on the means and never…think of the end….They are eager, restless, positive, because they are superficial. To what end all this stir, noise, greed, struggle?

Henri Frederic Amiel

Journal.

Greed

Thinking to get at once all the gold the goose could give, he killed it and opened it only to find—nothing.

Aesop

The Goose with the Golden Eggs

Greed

Usury is the certainest means of gain, though one of the worst; as that whereby a man doth eat his bread with sweat of another's face, and besides, doth plough upon Sundays.

Francis Bacon

Essays. On Riches.

Greed

We find greedy men, blind with the lust for money, trafficking in human misery.

Attorney General Thomas C. Clark, address before the Boston Chamber of Commerce, Boston, Massachusetts, October 8, 1947.—Boston Business, November 1947, p. 16.

Greed

what man calls civilization

always results in deserts

man is never on the square

he uses up the fat and greenery of the earth

each generation wastes a little more

of the future with greed and lust for riches

Don Marquis,

"What the Ants Are Saying," stanza 5,

Archy Does His Part, in The Lives and

Times of Archy & Mehitabel, p. 475 (1950).

Grief

Everyone can master a grief but he that has it.

William Shakespeare

Grief

Grief melts away

Like snow in May,

As if there were no such cold thing.

George Herbert

The Temple. The Flower, 1

Grief

To weep is to make less the depth of grief.

William Shakespeare

King Henry VI, III, II, I, 85

Grief

Was ever grief like mine?

George Herbert

The Temple. The Church. The Sacrifice, refrain

Grief

Well it has been said that there is no grief like the grief which does not speak.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Growth

All that in this delightful garden grows,

Should happy be, and have immortal bliss.

Edmund Spenser

The Faerie Queene, III, 6, 41

Growth

Everybody wants to be somebody; nobody wants to grow.

Johann W. von Goethe

Growth

Growth is the only evidence of life.

John Henry, Cardinal Newman

Growth

Nobody knows what a boy is worth. We'll have to wait and see. But every man in a noble place a boy once used to be.

Author Unknown

Growth

Pigmies placed on the shoulders of giants see more than the giants themselves.

Lucan

The Civil War, II, 10 (Didacus Stella)

Growth

Some people grow under authority while others just swell.

Author Unknown

Growth

When I am grown to man's estate

I shall be very proud and great,

And tell the other girls and boys

Not to meddle with my toys.

Robert Louis Stevenson

Growth

Why build these cities glorious

If man unbuilded goes?

In vain we build the world

Unless the builder also grows.

Edwin Markham

Guests

Fish and visitors smell in three days.

Benjamin Franklin

Guests

Guests should not forget to go home.

Swedish Proverb

Guests

No guest is so welcome in a friend's house that he will not become a nuisance after three days.

Plautus

Guests

Unbidden guests

Are often welcomest when they are gone.

William Shakespeare

King Henry VI, I, II, ii, 55

Guilt

Friends and comrades! On that side [south] are toil, hunger nakedness, the drenching storm, desertion, and death; on this side ease and pleasure. There lies Peru with its riches; here, Panama and its poverty. Choose, each man, what best becomes a brave Castilian. For my part, I go to the south.

Francisco Pizarro.—This English translation of a 1527 manuscript is in William H. Prescott, History of the Contest of Peru, vol. 1, p. 263 (1848).

Guilt

He declares himself guilty who justifies himself before accusation.

Proverb.—Robert Christy, Proverbs, Maxims and Phrases of All Ages, p. 470, no. 12 (1888).The Oxford Dictionary of English Proverbs, 3d ed., rev. F. P Wilson, p. 234 (1970), has "He who excuses himself, accuses himself." Shakespeare expressed it as, "And oftentimes excusing of a fault / Doth make the fault the worse by the excuse. "—King John, act IV, scene ii, lines 30-31.

Guilt

He who flies proves himself guilty.

Danish proverb.—Robert Christy, Proverbs, Maxims and Phrases of All Ages, vol. 1, p. 471 (1888). The Bible says, "The wicked flee when no man pursueth."—Proverbs 28:1.

Guilt

Sorrow is given us on purpose to cure us of sin.

St. Joannes Chrysostomus (St. John Chrysostom) (345?-407)

Homilies (c. 388)

Guilt

That deed which in our guilt we today call weakness, will appear tomorrow as an essential link in the complete chain of Man.

Kahlil Gibran, The Voice of the Master, trans. Anthony R. Ferris, p. 32 (1958).

Guilt

There is no witness so dreadful, no accuser so terrible as the conscience that dwells in the heart of every man.

Polybius

History, XVIII, 43

Habits

Chaos often breeds life, when order breeds habit.

Henry Adams

Habits

For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he…

Proverbs 23:7

Habits

Good habits are as easy to form as bad ones.

Tim McCarver

Habits

Habit is a cable. We weave a thread of it every day, and at last we cannot break it.

Horace Mann

Habits

I am not a politician, but my other habits are good.

Charles Browne

Habits

If you want a trait, act as if you already have the trait.

William James

Habits

It is easy to assume a habit; but when you try to cast if off, it will take skin and all.

Henry Wheeler Shaw

Habits

No one becomes depraved in a moment.

Juvenal

Habits

The chains of habit are generally too small to be felt until they are too strong to be broken.

Samuel Johnson

Habits

We first make our habits, and then our habits break us.

John Dryden

Haiti

Parvis e glandibus quercus.

Tall oaks from little acorns grow.

Anonymous Latin Saying

Haiti

Those of you who have been there [Haiti] know it is one of the most beautiful countries in the world. It has everything. It has everything above the ground, and everything under the ground…. It is an amazing place. I strongly recommend that whenever you get a chance, if you haven't been there, that you go to Haiti. I think it was a certain Queen of England who said that after her death "Calais" would be found written on her heart. When I die, I think that "Haiti" is going to be written on my heart.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt, toast to the President of Haiti, White House dinner October 14, 1943.—The Public Papers and Addresses of Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1943, p. 430 (1950). It was Queen Mary I of England who said, "When I am dead and opened, you shall find Calais laying in my heart."—John Foxe, The Acts and Monuments of John Foxe, ed. Stephen Reed Cattley, vol. 8, book 12, p. 625 (1839). During her reign, England had lost Calais to the French.

Happiness/Unhappiness

A happy life consists in tranquility of mind.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

Happiness/Unhappiness

A smile on the face is a sign that the heart is at home.

Author Unknown

Happiness/Unhappiness

A sound mind in a sound body, is a short but full description of a happy state in this world.

John Locke

Some Thoughts on Education, 1

Happiness/Unhappiness

Account no man happy till he dies.

Euripides (485-406 B.C.)

The Trojan Women (415 B.C.)

Happiness/Unhappiness

After long experience in the world, I affirm: before God, that I never knew a rogue who was not unhappy.

Lloyd Jones

Happiness/Unhappiness

After what we can say you can be sure the happy heart will make the happy day.

Author Unknown

Happiness/Unhappiness

After you have sought over the wide world, you learn that happiness is to be found only in your own home.

Voltaire

Happiness/Unhappiness

All that is harmony for thee, O Universe, is in harmony with me as well. Nothing that comes at the right time for thee is too early or too late for me. Everything is fruit to me that thy seasons bring, O Nature. All things come of thee, have their being in thee, and return to thee.

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

Meditations, IV, 23

Happiness/Unhappiness

All the things I really like to do are either immoral, illegal, or fattening.

Attributed to Alexander Woollcott in various sources. Unverified. Sometimes heard, "immoral, illegal, fattening, or too expensive."

Happiness/Unhappiness

And no less happy he who knows the rural gods—Pan, and old Sylvanus, and the sisterhood of Nymphs.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Georgics, II, 493

Happiness/Unhappiness

As happy a man as any in the world, for the whole world seems to smile upon me.

Samuel Pepys

Happiness/Unhappiness

As we are now living in an eternity, the time to be happy is today.

Grenville Kleiser

Happiness/Unhappiness

Avarice and happiness never saw each other, how then should they become acquainted?

Benjamin Franklin

Happiness/Unhappiness

Believing that the happiness of mankind is best promoted by the useful pursuits of peace, that On these alone a stable prosperity can be founded, that the evils of war are great in their endurance, and have a long reckoning for ages to come, I have used my best endeavors to keep our country uncommitted in the troubles which afflict Europe, and which assail us on every side.

President Thomas Jefferson, letter to the Young Republicans of Pittsburg, December 2, 1808.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. H. A. Washington, vol. 8, p. 142 (1871).

Happiness/Unhappiness

Do not speak of your happiness to one less fortunate than yourself.

Plutarch

Happiness/Unhappiness

For joys fall not to the rich alone, nor has he lived ill, who from birth to death has passed unknown.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Epistles, I, xvii, 9

Happiness/Unhappiness

Hairbreadth missings of happiness look the insults of Fortune.

Henry Fielding

Happiness/Unhappiness

Happiness consists of three things; Someone to love, work to do, and a clear conscience.

Author Unknown

Happiness/Unhappiness

Happiness is a hard thing because it is achieved only by making others happy.

Stuart Cloete

Happiness/Unhappiness

Happiness is almost always a rebound from hard work.

Author Unknown

Happiness/Unhappiness

Happiness is the act of being tough with ourselves and tender with others.

Author Unknown

Happiness/Unhappiness

Happy he who like Ulysses a glorious voyage made.

Joachim Du Bellay

Les Regrets, XXXI

Happiness/Unhappiness

Happy in that we are not over happy.

William Shakespeare

Hamlet, II, ii, 236

Happiness/Unhappiness

Happy the man who could search out the causes of things.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Georgics, II, 490

Happiness/Unhappiness

Happy the man who far from schemes of business, like the early generations of mankind, works his ancestral acres with oxen of his own breeding, from all usury free.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Epodes, II, 1

Happiness/Unhappiness

Happy the Man, and happy he alone,

He who can call today his own;

He who, secure within, can say,

Tomorrow, do thy worst, for I have liv'd today.

John Dryden (1631-1700)

"Translation (or imitation) of Horace" (1685),

Book III, Ode 29, 1.65

Happiness/Unhappiness

Happy, thrice happy and more, are they whom an unbroken bond unites and whose love shall know no sundering quarrels so long as they shall live.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Odes, I, xiii, 17

Happiness/Unhappiness

He laughs best who laughs last.

John Vanbrugh

Happiness/Unhappiness

He who is of a calm and happy nature will hardly feel the pressure of age, but to him who is of an opposite disposition youth and age are equally a burden.

Plato

The Republic, I, 329-D

Happiness/Unhappiness

He will through life be master of himself and a happy man who from day to day can have said, "I have lived: tomorrow the Father may fill the sky with black clouds or with cloudless sunshine.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Odes, III, xxix, 41

Happiness/Unhappiness

How happy those whose walls already rise!

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aeneid, I, 437

Happiness/Unhappiness

Human felicity is produced not so much by great pieces of good fortune that seldom happens as by little advantages that occur every day.

Benjamin Franklin

Happiness/Unhappiness

If happiness is activity in accordance with excellence, it is reasonable that it should be in accordance with the highest excellence.

Aristotle

Nicomachean Ethics, X, 7

Happiness/Unhappiness

If men would consider not so much wherein they differ, as wherein they agree, there would be far less of uncharitableness and angry feeling in the world.

Joseph Addison

Happiness/Unhappiness

If one only wished to be happy this could be easily accomplished, but we wish to be happier than other people, and this is always difficult for we believe others to be happier than they are.

Author Unknown

Happiness/Unhappiness

If there were not happiness on earth, the creation would be a monstrosity, and Voltaire would have been right when he called our planet the latrines of the universe.

Giovanni Jacopo Casanova de Seingalt

Memoires, Paris, 1885.

Happiness/Unhappiness

In every adversity of fortune, to have been happy is the most unhappy kind of misfortune.

Boethius

De Consolatione Philosophiae, II, 4, 4

Happiness/Unhappiness

It is not the rich man you should properly call happy, but him who knows how to use with wisdom the blessing of the gods, to endure hard poverty, and who fears dishonor worse than death, and is not afraid to die for cherished friends or fatherland.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Odes, IV, ix, 45

Happiness/Unhappiness

Make me to say, when all my griefs are gone,

"Happy the heart that sighed for such a one!"

Samuel Daniel

Sonnets to Delia, Sonnet: I Must Not Grieve

Happiness/Unhappiness

No lot is altogether happy.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Odes, II, xvi, 27

Happiness/Unhappiness

No man is happy who does not think himself so.

Marcus Aurelius

Happiness/Unhappiness

No thoroughly occupied man was ever very miserable.

L. E. Landon

Happiness/Unhappiness

Nothing is miserable but what is thought so, and contrariwise, every estate is happy if he that bears it be content.

Boethius

De Consolatione Philosophiae, II, 4, 64

Happiness/Unhappiness

O thrice four times blessed!

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aeneid, I, 94

Happiness/Unhappiness

O what their joy and their glory must be,

Those endless sabbaths the blessed ones see!

Peter Abelard

Hymnus Paraclitensis

Happiness/Unhappiness

Only happy people can learn. Only happy people can teach. Our religion should put a sparkle in our eyes and a tone in our voice, and a spring in our step that bears witness of our faith and confidence in the goodness of God.

Author Unknown

Happiness/Unhappiness

Perfect happiness I believe was never intended by the deity to be the lot of any one of his creatures in this world; but that he has very much put in our power the nearness of our approaches to it, is what I as stedfastly believe.

Thomas Jefferson, letter to John Page, July 15, 1763.—The Papers of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Julian P Boyd, vol. 1, p. 10 (1950). Jefferson used the spelling "believe."This letter was written in hopes that John Page would talk to Belinda, a young woman with whom Jefferson, then 20, was infatuated. Jefferson was normally cool and level-headed, but Belinda had a devastating effect on his poise, leaving him tongue-tied and stammering.—Saul K. Padover Jefferson, chapter 2, p. 20 (1942).

Happiness/Unhappiness

Real happiness is cheap enough, yet how dearly we pay for its counterfeit.

Hosea Ballou

Happiness/Unhappiness

That happy place, the green groves of the dwelling of the blest.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aeneid, VI, 638

Happiness/Unhappiness

That here on earth is no sure happiness.

Edmund Spenser

The Faerie Queene, VI, 11, 1

Happiness/Unhappiness

The great end of all human industry, is the attainment of happiness. For this were arts invented, sciences cultivated, laws ordained, and societies modelled, by the most profound wisdom of patriots and legislators. Even the lonely savage, who lies exposed to the inclemency of the elements and the fury of wild beasts, forgets not, for a moment, this grand object, of his being.

David Hume, "The Stoic," Essays, Moral, Political and Literary, part 1, essay 16, in The Philosophical Works of David Hume, vol. 3, p. 167 (1826).

Happiness/Unhappiness

The happiest lot for a man, as far as birth is concerned, is that it should be such as to give him but little occasion to think much about it.

Whately

Happiness/Unhappiness

The happiest moments of my life have been the few which I have past at home in the bosom of my family…. public emploiment contributes neither to advantage nor happiness. It is but honorable exile from one's family and affairs.

Thomas Jefferson, secretary of state, letter to Francis Willis, Jr., April 18, 1790.—The Papers of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Julian P Boyd, vol. 16, p. 353 (1961).Willis served in Congress 1791-1793.

Happiness/Unhappiness

The highest pinnacle of spiritual life is not happy joy in unbroken sunshine, but absolute and undoubting trust in the love of God.

Author Unknown

Happiness/Unhappiness

The most unhappy of all men is he who believes himself to be.

David Hume

Happiness/Unhappiness

The most utterly wasted of all days is that in which you have not once laughed.

Sebastian Chamfort

Happiness/Unhappiness

The road to daily happiness is not hard to find, it's what we do for others that brings us peace of mind.

Author Unknown

Happiness/Unhappiness

The secret of happiness is not in doing what one likes, but in liking what one has to do.

James M. Barrie

Happiness/Unhappiness

The thirst after happiness is never extinguished in the heart of man.

Jean Jacques Rousseau

Happiness/Unhappiness

The world owes all of its onward impulses to men ill at ease. The happy man inevitably confines himself within ancient limits.

Nathaniel Hawthorne

Happiness/Unhappiness

There are only two roads that lead to something like human happiness. They are marked by the words: love and achievement….In order to be happy oneself it is necessary to make at least one other person happy…. The secret of human happiness is not in self-seeking but in self-forgetting.

Theodore Reik, A Psychologist Looks at Love, chapter 3, final page, in Of Love and Lust, p. 194 (1957).

Happiness/Unhappiness

There is no happiness for people at the expense of other people.

Anwar Sadat

Happiness/Unhappiness

There is no way to happiness. Happiness is the way.

Wayne Dyer

Happiness/Unhappiness

Three ounces are necessary, first of Patience,

Then, of Repose & Peace; of Conscience

A pound entire is needful;

of Pastimes of all sorts, too,

Should be gathered as much as the hand can hold;

Of Pleasant Memory & of Hope three good drachms

There must be at least. But they should moistened be

With a liquor made from True Pleasures which rejoice the heart.

Then of Love's Magic Drops, a few—

But use them sparingly, for they may bring a flame

Which naught but tears can drown,

Grind the whole and mix therewith of Merriment, an ounce

To even. Yet all this may not bring happiness

Except in your Orisons you lift your voice

To Him who holds the gift of health.

Margaret of Navarre, Recipe for a Happy Life, Written by Margaret of Navarre in the Year Fifteen Hundred, ed. Marie West King, p. 1 (1911).

A modern "happy home recipe," author unknown, includes: "4 cups of love, 2 cups of loyalty, 3 cups of forgiveness, 1 cup of friendship, 5 spoons of hope, 2 spoons of tenderness, 4 quarts of faith, 1 barrel of laughter. "Take love and loyalty, mix thoroughly with faith. Blend it with tenderness, kindness and understanding. Add friendship and hope, sprinkle abundantly with laughter. Bake it with sunshine. Serve daily with generous helpings."

Happiness/Unhappiness

To be without some of the things you want is an indispensable part of happiness.

Bertrand Russell

Happiness/Unhappiness

To pretend to satisfy one's desires by possessions is like putting out a fire with straw.

Mencius

Happiness/Unhappiness

Very little is needed to make a happy life.

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

Meditations, VII, 67

Happiness/Unhappiness

We exaggerate misfortune and happiness alike. We are never so wretched or so happy as we say we are.

Honore de Balzac

Happiness/Unhappiness

We meet this evening, not in sorrow, but in gladness of heart.

President Abraham Lincoln, last public address, April 11, 1865.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P. Basler vol. 8, p. 399 (1953).On April 9 Lee had surrendered.

Happiness/Unhappiness

We must laugh before we are happy, for fear we die before we laugh at all.

Jean de la Bruyere

Happiness/Unhappiness

Were the happiness of the next world as closely apprehended as the felicities of this, it were a martyrdom to live.

Sir Thomas Browne

Urn-Burial; or Hydriotaphia, 4

Happiness/Unhappiness

When toilsome contests have been decided, good cheer is the best physician, and songs, the sage daughters of the Muses, soothe with their touch.

Pindar

Nemean Odes Iv, 1

Happiness/Unhappiness

Who hath so entire happiness that he is not in some part offended with the condition of his estate?

Boethius

De Consolatione Philosophiae, II, 4, 41

Happiness/Unhappiness

With coarse food to eat, water to drink, and the bended arm for a pillow, happiness may still exist.

Lao Tse

Happiness/Unhappiness

You have not fulfilled every duty unless you have fulfilled that of being cheerful and pleasant.

C. C. Buxton

Happiness/Unhappiness

Good friends, good books and a sleepy conscience: this is the ideal life.

Mark Twain

Happiness/Unhappiness

Happiness is not being pained in body or troubled in mind.

Thomas Jefferson

Happiness/Unhappiness

Happiness lies in the taste, and not in the things; and it is from having what we desire that we are happy—not from having what others think desirable.

Duc de la Rochefoucauld

Happiness/Unhappiness

Happy the man who early learns the wide chasm that lies between his wishes and his powers!

Johann W. von Goethe

Happiness/Unhappiness

How many things are there which I do not want.

Socrates

Happiness/Unhappiness

I have diligently numbered the days of pure and genuine happiness which have fallen to my lot: they amount to fourteen.

Abd-el-Raham

Happiness/Unhappiness

Man, unlike the animals, has never learned that the sole purpose of life is to enjoy it.

Samuel Butler

Happiness/Unhappiness

No greater grief than to remember days of gladness when sorrow is at hand.

Friedrich Schiller

Happiness/Unhappiness

Prudence keeps life safe, but does not often make it happy.

Samuel Johnson

Happiness/Unhappiness

Renown is a source of toil and sorrow; obscurity is a source of happiness.

Johann L. von Mosheim

Happiness/Unhappiness

The happy do not believe in miracles.

Johann W. von Goethe

Happiness/Unhappiness

There is no greater sorrow than to recall, in misery, the time when we were happy.

Dante Alighieri

Happiness/Unhappiness

There is nothing which has yet been contrived by man by which so much happiness is produced as by a good tavern.

Samuel Johnson

Happiness/Unhappiness

What can be added to the happiness of a man who is in health, out of debt, and has a clear conscience?

Adam Smith

Happiness/Unhappiness

What everyone wants from life is continuous and genuine happiness. Happiness is the rational understanding of life and the world.

Baruch Spinoza

Harm

As to diseases, make a habit of two things—to help, or at least to do no harm. The art has three factors, the disease, the patient, the physician. The physician is the servant of the art. The patient must co-operate with the physician in combating the disease.

Hippocrates, Epidemics, book 1, section 11.—Hippocrates, trans. W. H. S. Jones, vol. 1, p. 165 (1923)."To do no harm" is echoed in two places in the Hippocratic Oath, as given in this translation: "I will use treatment to help the sick according to my ability and judgment, but never with a view to injury and wrong-doing" and "In whatsoever houses I enter I will enter to help the sick, and I will abstain from all intentional wrong-doing and harm" (pp. 299, 301).

Harm

I wish to have no connection with any ship that does not sail fast; for I intend to go in harm's way.

John Paul Jones, letter to M. Le Ray de Chaumont, November 16, 1778.—Lincoln Lorenz, John Paul Jones, Fighter for Freedom and Glory, p. xiii (1943).

Harm

Once harm has been done, even a fool understands it.

Homer

The Iliad, XVII, 32

Hate/Hatred

Hatreds never cease by hatred; they cease by non-hatred; this is the primeval law.

Suttapitaka

Hate/Hatred

I could never hate anyone I knew.

Attributed to Charles Lamb.—Alfred Ainger Charles Lamb, chapter 6, p. 124 (1882). Other biographers have also attributed this sentence to him, although the circumstances under which he said it are given variously.

Hate/Hatred

I hate and I love. Why I do so, perhaps you ask. I know not, but I feel it and I am in torment.

Gaius Valerius Catullus

Carmina, LXXXV, 1

Hate/Hatred

I make it a practice to avoid hating anyone. If someone's been guilty of despicable actions, especially toward me, I try to forget him. I used to follow a practice—somewhat contrived, I admit—to write the man's name on a piece of scrap paper, drop it into the lowest drawer of my desk, and say to myself: "That finishes the incident, and so far as I'm concerned, that fellow." The drawer became over the years a sort of private wastebasket for crumbled-up spite and discarded personalities.

Dwight D. Eisenhower, At Ease: Stories I Tell to Friends, p. 52 (1967)

Hate/Hatred

Self is hateful.

Blaise Pascal

Pensees, 455

Hate/Hatred

There's no hate lost between us.

Thomas Middleton

The Witch, IV, 2

Hate/Hatred

Whom they have injured they also hate.

Lucius Annaeus Seneca

Moral Essays. On Anger, 2, 33

Hate/Hatred

Hated by fools, and fools to hate,

Be that my motto and my fate.

Jonathan Swift

Hate/Hatred

Hatred is like fire; it makes even light rubbish deadly.

George Eliot

Hate/Hatred

Hatred is self-punishment.

Hosea Ballou

Hate/Hatred

Never in this world can hatred be stilled by hatred; it will be stilled only by non-hatred—this is the law Eternal.

Buddha

Hate/Hatred

Rather perish than hate and fear, and twice rather perish than make oneself hated and feared—this must some day become the highest maxim for every single commonwealth.

Friedrich Nietzsche

Health

A sense of purpose and the opportunity to contribute to others—these are as vital to toal health as are adequate nutrition and rest.

H. A. Holle, M. D.

Health

Every man is the builder of a temple, called his body.

Henry David Thoreau

Health

Gout, unlike any other disease, kills more rich men than poor, more wise men than simple. Great kings, emperors, generals, admirals, and philosophers have all died of gout.

Thomas Sydenham

Quoted in Bulletin of the New Yord Academy of Medicine, Vol. IV, p. 993

Health

Health lies in labor, and there is no royal road to it but through toil.

Wendell Phillips

Health

Here's to your good health and your family's good health, and may you all live long and prosper.

Washington Irving

Health

With your talents and industry, with science, and that stedfast honesty which eternally pursues right, regardless of consequences, you may promise yourself every thing—but health, without which there is no happiness. An attention to health then should take place of every other object. The time necessary to secure this by active exercises, should be devoted to it in preference to every other pursuit.

Thomas Jefferson, letter to Thomas Mann Randolph, Jr., July 6, 1787.—The Papers of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Julian P Boyd, vol. 11, p. 558 (1955).

Health

You should pray for a sound mind in a sound body.

Decimus Junius Juvenal

Satires, X, 356

Health

You should pray for a sound mind in a sound body.

Juvenal

Heart and Head

'Twill grieve me so to the heart that I shall cry my eyes out.

Miguel de Cervantes

Don Quixote, pt. I, III, 11, 197

Heart and Head

Emotion has taught mankind to reason.

Marquis de Vauvenargues

Heart and Head

In each human heart are a tiger, a pig, an ass and a nightingale. Diversity of character is due to their unequal activity.

Ambrose Bierce

Heart and Head

My heart was in my mouth.

Gaius Petronius [Petronius Arbiter]

Satyricon, 62

Heart and Head

Some people feel with their heads and think with their hearts.

G. C. Lichtenberg

Heart and Head

The head is always the dupe of the heart.

Duc de la Rochefoucauld

Heart and Head

The heart has its reasons which reason does not understand.

Blaise Pascal

Heart and Head

The heart…commonly triumphs in every struggle with the understanding.

Philip Dormer Stanhope,

4th Earl of Chesterfield (1694-1773)

Letters to His Son, March 9, 1748

Heart and Head

The pleasures of the intellect are permanent, the pleasures of the heart are transitory.

Henry David Thoreau

Heart and Head

The world is a comedy to those that think, a tragedy to those that feel.

Horace Walpole

Heart and Head

Within the red-leaved table of my heart.

Thomas Heywood

A Woman Killed with Kindness, II, 3

Heaven and Hell

'Tis expectation makes a blessing dear,

Heaven were not heaven, if we knew what it were.

Sir John Suckling

Fragmenta Aurea. Against Fruition, 4

Heaven and Hell

Heaven is not gained at a single bound;

But we must build the ladder by which we rise

From lowly earth to vaulted skies,

And we mount to its summit, round by round.

J. G. Holland

Heaven and Hell

Heaven will be inherited by every man who has heaven in his soul.

Henry Ward Beecher

Heaven and Hell

Heaven's gates are not so highly arched as princes' palaces; they that enter there must go upon their knees.

Daniel Webster

Heaven and Hell

If God hath made this world so fair Where sin and death abound; How beautiful beyond compare Will paradise be found.

C. A. Mason

Heaven and Hell

If our Creator has so bountifully provided for our existence here, which is but momentary, and for our temporal wants, which will soon be forgotten, how much more must he have done for our enjoyment in the everlasting world!

Hosea Ballou

Heaven and Hell

My soul, there is a country

Far beyond the stars

Where stands a winged sentry

All skillful in the wars:

There, above noise and danger,

Sweet Peace is crown'd with smiles,

And One born in a manger

Commands the beauteous files.

Henry Vaughan

Silex Scintillans. Peace, 1

Heaven and Hell

My latest found,

Heaven's last, best gift, my ever new delight!

John Milton

Paradise Lost, V, 18

Heaven and Hell

A man may go to Heaven with half the pains which costs him to purchase Hell.

Henry Fielding (1707-1754)

Jonathan Wild (1743)

Heaven and Hell

All hell broke loose.

John Milton

Paradise Lost, IV, 918

Heaven and Hell

All places are distant from heaven alike.

Robert Burton

Anatomy of Melancholy, II, 2, 4

Heaven and Hell

Already I had fixed my look on his; and he rose upright with breast and countenance, as if he entertained great scorn of Hell.

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy, Canto X, 34

Heaven and Hell

Each of us bears his own Hell.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aeneid, VI, 743

Heaven and Hell

Hades is relentless and unyielding.

Homer

The Iliad, Ix, 158

Heaven and Hell

Heaven is above all yet; there sits a judge

That no king can corrupt.

William Shakespeare

King Henry VIII, III, i, 99

Heaven and Hell

Heaven's net is indeed vast.

Though its meshes are wide, it misses nothing.

Lao Tzu

The Way of Lao Tzu 73

Heaven and Hell

Hell hath no limits, nor is circumscribed

In one self place; for where we are is hell,

And where hell is there must we ever be.

Christopher Marlowe

The Tragical History of Doctor Faustus, sc. v

Heaven and Hell

Hell is full of good intentions or desires.

St. Bernard

Attributed. From St. Francis De Sales, Letter 74

Heaven and Hell

Hell is full of good meanings and wishings.

George Herbert

Jacula Prudentum, 170

Heaven and Hell

Hell is paved with priests' skulls.

St. John Chrysostom

De sacerdotio, c. 390.

Heaven and Hell

Hell is paved with the skulls of unbaptized children…. [Damned infants are] young vipers and [to God] infinitely more hateful than vipers.

Jonathan Edwards (1703-1758)

Quoted in The American Treasury, ed. Clifton Fadiman, 1955

Heaven and Hell

Hold most firmly and doubt not that not only all the pagans, but also all Jews, heretics, and schismatics who depart from their present life outside the Catholic Church, are about to go into eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.

Saint Fulgentius

Heaven and Hell

I sent my Soul through the Invisible,

Some letter of that After-life to spell:

And by and by my soul return'd to me,

And answer'd "I myself am Heav'n and Hell."

Edward Fitzgerald (1809-1883)

The Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam (anonymously published 1859, revised and expanded, 1868), LXVI.

Heaven and Hell

If I cannot bend Heaven, I shall move Hell.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aeneid, VII, 312

Heaven and Hell

Many might go to heaven with half the labor they go to hell.

Ben Jonson

Heaven and Hell

My idea of heaven is eating foie gras to the sound of trumpets.

Sydney Smith

Heaven and Hell

No ascent is too steep for mortals, Heaven itself we seek in our folly.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Odes, I, iii, 37

Heaven and Hell

Of the delights of this world man cares most for sexual intercourse, yet he has left it out of his heaven.

Mark Twain

Heaven and Hell

Since heaven's eternal year is thine.

John Dryden

To the Pious Memory of

Mrs. Anne Killegrew, 15

Heaven and Hell

That unextinguishable laugh in heaven.

Sir Thomas Browne

Garden of Cyrus, ch. 2

Heaven and Hell

The heart of man is the place the devils dwell in; I feel sometimes a hell within myself.

Sir Thomas Browne

Religio Medici, I, 51

Heaven and Hell

The road to Hades is easy to travel.

Bion

From Diogenes Laertius, IV, 49

Heaven and Hell

The road to Hell is paved with good intentions.

Samuel Johnson

Heaven and Hell

The sight of hell-torments will exalt the happiness of the saints for ever

Jonathan Edwards (1703-1758)

The Eternity of Hell-Torments (1739)

Heaven and Hell

The wicked often work harder to go to hell than the righteous do to enter heaven.

John Billings

Heaven and Hell

They strove to pile Ossa on Olympus, and on Ossa Pelion with its leafy forests, that they might scale the heavens.

Homer

The Odyssey, XI, 315

Heaven and Hell

This that you have heard is the case of everyone of you that are out of Christ. The world of misery, that lake of burning brimstone, is extended abroad under you. There is the dreadful pit of the glowing flames of the wrath of God; there is hell's wide gaping mouth open.

Jonathan Edwards

Heaven and Hell

To undertake executions for the master executioner [Heaven] is like hewing wood for the master carpenter. Whoever undertakes to hew wood for the master carpenter rarely escapes injuring his own hands.

Lao Tzu

The Way of Lao Tzu 74

Heaven and Hell

What canst thou see elsewhere which thou canst not see here? Behold the heaven and the earth and all the elements; for of these are all things created.

Thomas A. Kempis

Imitation of Christ, I, 20

Heaven and Hell

When Heaven is about to confer a great office on any man, it first exercises his mind with suffering, and his sinews and bones with toil.

Mencius

Book VI, 2:15.2

Heaven and Hell

When the first indications of error begin to appear in the state, Heaven sends forth ominous portents and calamities to warn men and announce the fact.

Tung Chung-Shu

Ch'un-ch'iu fan-lu

Heaven and Hell

With the color that paints the morning and evening clouds that face the sun I saw then the whole heaven suffused.

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy. Paradiso, canto XXVII, 28

Heaven and Hell

[They answered that they were called Angels.] It is well, for they have the faces of angels, and such should be the co-heirs of the angels in heaven.

Gregory I

From Bede, Ecclesiastical History of the English People, II, 1

Height

A dwarf is small, even if he stands on a mountain; a colossus keeps his height, even if he stands in a well.

Plutarch

Height

It has been observed that the height of a man from the crown of the head to the sole of the foot is equal to the distance between the tips of the middle fingers of the two hands when extended in a straight line.

Pliny the Elder

Natural History, VII, 77

Helpfulness

If you can sit at set of sun And count the deeds that you have done and counting find One self-denying act; one word That eased the heart of him that heard—One glance most kind; Which fell like sunshine where he went; Then you may count that day well spent.

Robert Browning

Helpfulness

It is not how many bonds you have in a bank vault; or how much plate on your sideboard that God looks to see; but how many lives have been brightened and how many sorrows have been healed by the gifts of your love.

H. C. Potter

Helpfulness

It is not possible; ordinarily; to change the hard conditions of those who are in life's stress; but it is possible to give them brotherly sympathy and encouragement. The cup was not taken away from Jesus; but an angel from heaven appeared and strengthened Him. No other ministry which human love can render is so angel-like as that of him who gives cheer.

J. R. Miller

Helpfulness

The worst days of darkness through which I have ever passed have been greatly alleviated by throwing myself with all my energy into some work relating to others.

James A. Garfield

Helpfulness

There is a destiny that makes us brothers; None goes his way alone; All that we send into the lives of others Comes back into our own.

Edwin Markham

Helpfulness

Without the wisdom of the learned; the clown could not be governed; without the labor of the clown; the learned could not be fed.

Wisdom of the Chinese

Heroes

A light supper, a good night's sleep, and a fine morning have often made a hero of the same man who by indigestion, a restless night, and a rainy mourning, would have proved a coward.

Earl of Chesterfield

Heroes

Every hero becomes a bore at last.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Heroes

Every man is a hero and an oracle to somebody, and to that person whatever he says has an enhanced value.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Heroes

Hero-worship is strongest where there is least regard for human freedom.

Herbert Spencer

Heroes

It is nice to make heroic decisions and to be prevented by "circumstances beyond your control" from ever trying to execute them.

William James

Heroes

No man is a hero to his valet. This is not because the hero is no hero, but because the valet is a valet.

Georg Wilhelm Hegel

Heroes

One murder makes a villain, millions a hero.

Bishop Beilby Porteus

Heroes

There is not a more unhappy being than a superannuated idol.

Joseph Addison

Heroes

There is nothing so nice as doing good by stealth and being found out by accident.

Charles Lamb

Hesitation

These things are good in little measure and evil in large; yeast, salt, and hesitation.

The Talmud

Hindsight

May you have the hindsight to know where you've been, the foresight to know where you're going and the insight to know when you're going too far.

Irish Toast

Hindsight

No one has ever bet enough on a winning horse.

Richard Sasuly

History

"A land without rains is a land without memories—a land without memories is a land without history."

Abram Joseph Ryan, "A Land Without Ruins," Preface quoting an unnamed source.—Edd Winfield Parks, Southern Poets, p. 165 (1936).

Father Ryan was a chaplain in the Civil War.

History

A Historian has to fight against temptations special to his mode of life, temptations from country, class, church, college, party, authority of talents, solicitation of friends.

Lord Acton (John E. E. Dalberg)

Letter to Mandell (later, Bishop) Creighton, April 5, 1887.

Historical Essays and Studies, 1907.

History

Advice to Persons About to Write History—Don't.

Lord Acton (John E. E. Dalberg)

Letter to Mandell (later, Bishop) Creighton, April 5, 1887.

Historical Essays and Studies, 1907. (Postscript)

History

All the errors of politics and in morals are founded upon philosophical mistakes, which, themselves, are connected with physical errors. There does not exist any religious system, or supernatural extravance, which is not founded on an ignorance of the laws of nature.

Marie Jean Nicolas Antoine de Caritat,

Marquise de Condorcet (1743-1794)

Sketch for a Historical Picture of the Progress of the Human Spirit

History

Among those causes of human improvement that are of most importance to the general welfare, must be included, the total annihilation of the prejudices which have established between the sexes an inequality of rights, fatal even to the part which it favors….

Marie Jean Nicolas Antoine de Caritat,

Marquise de Condorcet (1743-1794)

Sketch for a Historical Picture of the Progress of the Human Spirit

History

Anyone can make history. Only a great man can write it.

Oscar Wilde

History

Assassination has never changed the history of the world.

Benjamin Disraeli (Earl of Beaconsfield) (1804-1881)

Speeches, House of Commons, May 1, 1865; a reference to Lincoln

History

Die Politick ist keine exakte Wissenschaft. Politics are not an exact science.

Otto von Bismarck-Schoenhausen

Prussian Chamber, December 18, 1863.

History

For me it will be enough that a marble stone should declare that a queen having reigned such a time, lived and died a virgin.

Elizabeth I (1533-1603), Queen of England

Quoted in Hume, History of England

History

God cannot alter the past, but historians can.

Samuel Butler

History

Hegel remarks somewhere that all great world-historic facts and personages appear, so to speak, twice. He forgot to add: the first time as tragedy, the second time as farce.

Karl Marx, "The Eighteenth Brumaire of Louis Napoleon," part 1, in On Revolution (vol. 1 of The Karl Marx Library), ed. and trans. Saul K. Padover, p. 245 (1971).

History

Histories are a kind of distilled newspaper.

Thomas Carlyle

Heroes and Hero-Worship.

History

History fades into fable; fact becomes clouded with doubt and controversy; the inscription moulders from the tablet; the statue falls from the pedestal. Columns, arches, pyramids, what are they but heaps of sand; and their epitaphs, but characters written in the dust?

Washington Irving

History

History gives us a kind of chart, and we dare not surrender even a small rushlight in the darkness. The hasty reformer who does not remember the past will find himself condemned to repeat it.

John Buchan, general introduction to The Nations of Today, a series of popular histories published in 1923-1924 under Buchan's editorship. Each work contained Buchan's introduction.—Great Britain, vol. I, p. 12 (1923).

See No. 1292 for Santayana's similar remark.

History

History is a cyclic poem written by Time upon the memories of man.

Percy Bysshe Shelley

History

History is a pact between the dead, the living, and the yet unborn.

Edmund Burke

History

History is a sacred kind of writing, because truth is essential to it, and where truth is, there God himself is, so far as truth is concerned.

Miguel de Cervantes

Don Quixote, pt. V.

History

History is a set of lies agreed upon.

Napoleon Bonaparte

History

History is an account, mostly false, of events, mostly unimportant, which are brought about by rulers, mostly knaves, and soldiers, mostly fools.

Ambrose Bierce

History

History is indeed little more than the register of the crimes, follies, and misfortunes of mankind.

Edward Gibbon

History

History is only a confused heap of facts.

Earl of Chesterfield

History

History is philosophy teaching by example.

Dionysius of Halicarnassus (c. 20 B.C.)

De Arte Rhetorica (paraphrasing Thucydides) xi, 2

History

History is philosophy teaching by examples.

Henry St. John Bolingbroke

History

History is the discovering of the constant and universal principles of human nature.

David Hume

History

History is the witness that testifies to the passing of time; it illumines reality, vitalizes memory, provides guidance in daily life, and brings us tidings of antiquity.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

De Oratore, II, 36

History

History, the evidence of time, the light of truth, the life of memory, the directress of life, the herald of antiquity, committed to immortality.

Marcus Tullius Cicero (106-43 B.C.)

De Oratore (55 B.C.), ii, 36

History

Human history becomes more and more a race between education and catastrophe.

H. G. Wells, The Outline of History, vol. 2, chapter 41, p. 594 (1921).

History

I recommend you to leave the battle of Waterloo as it is.

Arthur Wellesley, Duke of Wellington

History

Men will preserve the errors of their childhood, of their country, and of their age long after having recognized all the truths needed to destroy them.

Marie Jean Nicolas Antoine de Caritat,

Marquise de Condorcet (1743-1794)

Sketch for a Historical Picture of the Progress of the Human Spirit

History

My family history begins with me, but yours ends with you.

Iphicrates

From Plutarch, Apothegms, Iphicrates

History

Not to know the events which happened before one was born, that is to remain always a boy.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

History

Now are fields of corn where Troy once was.

Ovid [Publius Ovidius Naso]

Heroides, I, i, 2

History

Our hopes for the future condition of the human race can be subsumed under three important heads: the abolition of inequality between nations, the progress of equality within each nation, and the true perfection of mankind.

Marie Jean Nicolas Antoine de Caritat,

Marquise de Condorcet (1743-1794)

Sketch for a Historical Picture of the Progress of the Human Spirit

History

Such bickerings to recount, met often in these our writers, what more with is it than to chronicle the wars of kites or crows flocking and fighting in the air?

John Milton

The History of England, IV

History

The centuries roll back to the ancient age of gold.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Odes, IV, ii, 39

History

The first law for the historian is that he shall never dare utter an untruth. The second is that he shall suppress nothing that is true. Moreover, there shall be no suspicion of partiality in his writing, or of malice.

Cicero

History

The history of persecution is a history of endeavors to cheat nature, to make water run up hill, to twist a rope of sand….A mob is a society of bodies voluntarily bereaving themselves of reason….The martyr cannot be dishonored…every burned book or house enlightens the world; every suppressed or expunged word reverberates through the earth from side to side.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Essays: First Series (1841), "Compensation"

History

The memories of men are too frail a thread to hang history from.

John Still

History

The men who make history have no time to write about it.

Prince Klemens von Metternich

History

The study of history is the beginning of political wisdom.

Jean Bodin

History

The two parties which divide the state, the party of Conservatism and that of Innovation, are very old, and have disputed possession of the world ever since it was made. This quarrel is the subject of civil history. The conservative party established the reverend hierarchies and monarchies of the most ancient world. The battle of patrician and plebeian, of parent state and colony, of old usage and accommodation to new facts, of the rich and the poor, reappear in all countries and times. The war rages not only in battlefields, in national councils and ecclesiastical synods, but agitates every man's bosom with opposing advantages every hour.\*

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Addresses And Lectures, "The Conservative" (1841)

[\* "Six years before Marx and Engels startled Europe with their famous announcement that history is the story of class struggles." Beards, Rise of American Civilization, I, p. 780]

History

There is properly no history; only biography.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

History

Thus I have maintained by English history that in proportion as the Press has been free, English government has been free.

Thomas Erskine (1750-1823)

Defense of Thomas Paine (December 20, 1792)

History

Tradition is a great retarding force, the vis inertiae of history.

By it [historical materialism] History for the first time was placed on its real foundation; the obvious fact, hitherto totally neglected, that first of all men must eat, drink and have shelter and clothing and therefore work, before they can struggle for supremacy or devote themselves to politics, religion, philosophy, etc., this fact at last found historical recognition.

Friedrich Engels (1820-1895)

Anti-Duhring (1878)

History

Want of foresight, unwillingness to act when action would be simple and effective, lack of clear thinking, confusion of counsel until the emergency comes, until self-preservation strikes its jarring gong—these are the features which constitute the endless repetition of history.

Winston Churchill, speech, House of Commons, May 2, 1935.—Winston S. Churchill: His Complete Speeches, 1897-1963, ed. Robert Rhodes James, vol. 6, p. 5592 (1974).Quoted by Senator John Tower:, address delivered before the American Defense Preparedness Association, April 14, 1983.—Congressional Record, April 20, 1983, vol. 129, p. 54989 (daily edition).

History

We have been Trojans; Troy has been.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aeneid, II, 325

History

What has once happened, will invariably happen again, when the same circumstances which combined to produce it, shall again combine in the same way.

Abraham Lincoln, speech on the Sub-Treasury, in the hall of the House of Representatives, Springfield, Illinois, December 26, 1839.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P Basler, vol. 1, p. 165 (1953).

History

What history teaches us is that men have never learned anything from it.

Georg Wilhelm Hegel

History

While we read history, we make history.

George William Curtis

History

Whoseover, in writing a modern history, shall follow truth too near the heels, it may haply strike out his teeth.

Sir Walter Raleigh

History of the World, preface

Home

A castle after all is but a house—the dullest one when lacking company.

James Sheridan Knowles

Home

A man travels the world over in search of what he needs and returns home to find it.

George Moore

Home

A man's homeland is wherever he prospers.

Aristophanes

Plutus, 1151

Home

Better be kind at home than burn incense in a far place.

Mencius

Home

Everyone to his own.

The bird is in the sky, the stone rests on the land,

In water lives the fish, my spirit in God's hand.

Angelus Silesius [Johann Scheffler]

The Cherubic Wanderer

Home

For a man's house is his castle, & domus sua cuique est tutissimum refugium; for where shall a man be safe, if it be not in his house?

Edward Coke, The Third Part of the Institutes of the Laws of England, chapter 73, p. 162 (1644).

Home

He is happiest, be he king or peasant, who finds peace in his own home.

Goethe

Home

Home is the place where we are treated the best, but grumble the most.

Author Unknown

Home

Home is the place where, when you have to go there,

They have to take you in.

Robert Frost, "The Death of the Hired Man," lines 118-19, The Poetry of Robert Frost, ed. Edward C. Lathem, p. 38 (1967).

Home

I like to see a man proud of the place in which he lives and to so live that the place he lives is proud of him.

Abraham Lincoln

Home

The poorest man may in his cottage bid defiance to all the forces of the Crown. It may be frail—its roof may shake—the wind may blow through it—the storm may enter—the rain may enter—but the King of England cannot enter—all his force dares not cross the threshold of the rained tenement!

William Pitt, the elder Earl of Chatham, speech in the House of Lords.—Henry Peter Brougham, Historical Sketches of Statesmen Who Flourished in the Time of George III, vol. 1, p. 52 (1839).Lord Brougham notes, "There are other celebrated passages of his speeches in all men's mouths…. Perhaps the finest of them all is his allusion to the maxim of English law, that every man's home is his castle," given above.

According to Francis Thackeray, A History of the Right Honorable William Pitt, vol. 2, p. 29 (1827), the speech was delivered in 1763 in opposition to an excise tax on perry and cider.

Home

There is no happiness; there is no misery; like that growing out of the dispositions which consecrate or desecrate a home.

E. H. Chapin

Home

Ubi bene ibi patria.

Where one is happy, there's one's homeland.

Anonymous Latin Saying

Home

What is more agreeable than one's home?

Cicero

Home

What makes a home? 'Tis where the weary come and lay their burdens down; assured of rest. Where we learn to know our dearest best; Where children play; blessing and blest—Through walls of coarsest clay enwrap the nest.

Fanny S. Reeder

Homemaker

THE MOST CREATIVE JOB IN THE WORLD

It involves taste, fashion, decorating, recreation, education, transportation, psychology, romance, cuisine, designing, literature, medicine, handicraft, art, horticulture, economics, government, community relations, pediatrics, geriatrics, entertainment, maintenance, purchasing, direct mail, law, accounting, religion, energy, and management. Anyone who can handle all those has to be somebody special. She is. She's the homemaker.

United Technologies Corporation

Honesty/Dishonesty

Take not, take note, O world!

To be direct and honest is not safe.

William Shakespeare

Othello, III, iii, 378

Honesty/Dishonesty

A man who, while his little son was with him, stopped at an isolated cornfield, and after looking right and left, started to climb the fence to appropriate a few ears of the farmer's corn. Said his son, 'Dad, you forgot to look up.'

Marion D. Hanks

Honesty/Dishonesty

An honest man is the noblest work of God.

Alexander Pope

Honesty/Dishonesty

Being entirely honest with oneself is a good exercise.

Sigmund Freud

Honesty/Dishonesty

Better be upright with poverty than depraved with abundance.

Confucius

Honesty/Dishonesty

He that departs with his own honesty

For Vulgar praise, doth it too dearly buy.

Ben Jonson

Honesty/Dishonesty

Honesty is the best policy, although sometimes keeping your mouth shut is even better.

United Features Syndicate

Honesty/Dishonesty

Honesty shines like a light through your eyes.

Author Unknown

Honesty/Dishonesty

I hope I shall always possess firmness and virtue enough to maintain what I consider the most enviable of all titles, the character of an "Honest Man."

George Washington

Honesty/Dishonesty

In our lives,

It is impossible for us to

Cheat a little and still

Be Honest.

Henry D. Moyle

Honesty/Dishonesty

It would be an unspeakable advantage, both to the public and private, if men consider the great truth that no man is wise or safe but that he is honest.

Sir Walter Raleigh

Honesty/Dishonesty

Rotten wood cannot be carved.

Mencius

Honesty/Dishonesty

There are ninety-nine men who believe in honesty for every honest man.

Mahatma Gandhi

Honesty/Dishonesty

This above all: to thine own self be true, and it must follow, as the night the day, thou canst then be false to any man.

William Shakespeare

Honesty/Dishonesty

Unfaithfulness in the keeping of an appointment is an act of clear dishonesty. You may as well borrow a person's money as his time.

Horace Mann

Honesty/Dishonesty

"Honesty is the best policy," but he who acts on that principle is not an honest man.

Bishop Richard Whately

Honesty/Dishonesty

A man is sorry to be honest for nothing.

Ovid.

—Henry T. Riley, A Dictionary of Latin and Greek Quotations,

Proverbs, Maxims and Mottos, p. 138 (1876).

This is a translation of Ovid's "gratis paenitet esse probum"

from his Ex Ponto, book 2, chapter 3. The translation in

Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, 15th ed., p. 114 (1980) reads:

"It is annoying to be honest to no purpose."

Honesty/Dishonesty

And whether you're an honest man or whether you're a thief/Depends on whose solicitor has given me my brief.

W. S. Gilbert

Honesty/Dishonesty

Don't steal; thou'lt never thus compete successfully in business. Cheat.

Ambrose Bierce

The Devil's Dictionary.

Honesty/Dishonesty

Even God lends a hand to honest boldness.

Menander

Unidentified fragment 572

Honesty/Dishonesty

He said: Honest men govern a country a hundred years, they could vanquish the malevolent and get rid of the death penalty.

Confucius (551-479 B.C.)

Analects (tr. Ezra Pound), Bk. XIII, 11

Honesty/Dishonesty

Honesty is praised and starves.

Decimus Junius Juvenal

Satires, I, 74

Honesty/Dishonesty

Honesty is the first chapter of the book of wisdom.

Thomas Jefferson

Honesty/Dishonesty

How many honest words have suffered corruption since Chaucer's days!

Thomas Middleton

No Wit, No Help, Like a Woman's, II, 1

Honesty/Dishonesty

I am looking for an honest man.

Diogenes The Cynic

From Diogenes, Laertius, Diogenes 6

Honesty/Dishonesty

I have tried if I could reach that great resolution… to be honest without a thought of Heaven or Hell.

Thomas Browne

Religio Medici, 1642, pt. i.

Honesty/Dishonesty

It is annoying to be honest to no purpose.

Ovid [Publius Ovidius Naso]

Ex Ponto, II, iii, 14

Honesty/Dishonesty

Party honesty is party expediency.

(Stephen) Grover Cleveland (1837-1908)

Quoted in New York Commercial Advertiser, September 19, 1889

Honesty/Dishonesty

They change their clime, not their disposition, who run across the sea.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Epistles, I, xi, 27

Honesty/Dishonesty

This dish of meat is too good for any but anglers, or very honest men.

Izaak Walton

The Compleat Angler, I, 8

Honesty/Dishonesty

Though it be honest, it is never good

To bring bad news.

William Shakespeare

Antony and Cleopatra, II, iii, 85

Honor

Rightly to be great

Is not to stir without great argument,

But greatly to find quarrel in a straw

When honor's at the stake.

William Shakespeare

Hamlet, IV, iv, 53

Honor

All men have in themselves that which is truly honorable. Only they do not think of it.

Mencius

Book VI, 1:17.1

Honor

Dignity does not consist in possessing honors, but in deserving them.

Aristotle

Honor

Even when someone battles hard, there is an equal portion for one who lingers behind, and in the same honor are held both the coward and the brave man; the idle man and he who has done much meet death alike.

Homer

The Iliad, IX, 318

Honor

Everything that thou reprovest in another, thou must most carefully avoid in thyself.

Cicero

Honor

Grant me, sound of body and of mind, to pass an old age lacking neither honor nore the lyre.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Odes, I, xxxi, last lines

Honor

He has defiled his father's grave.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Epistles, III, 471

Honor

He whose honor depends on the opinion of the mob must day by day strive with the greatest anxiety, act and scheme in order to retain his reputation. For the mob is varied and inconstant, and therefore if a reputation is not carefully preserved it dies quickly.

Benedict [Baruch] Spinoza

Ethics, IV, proposition 58: note

Honor

Honor is like an island, rugged and without a beach; once we have left it, we can never return.

Nicolas Boileau-Despreaux

Honor

Honour has come back, as a king, to earth,

And paid his subject with a royal wage;

And Nobleness walks in our ways again;

And we have come into our heritage.

Rupert Brooke

The Dead.

Honor

I could not love thee, Dear, so much

Lov'd I not honour more.

Richard Lovelace

Honor

I have a lantern. You steal my lantern. What, then, is your honor worth no more to you than the price of my lantern?

Epictetus

Honor

I will answer anything I can with honor, but not about others.

John Brown

N. Y. Herald verbatim report of hearing, October 21, 1859.

Honor

I would rather men should ask why no statue has been erected in my honor, than why one has.

Marcus Porcius Cato

Honor

I would rather that the people should wonder why I wasn't President than why I am.

Salmon P. Chase

Honor

If it be a sin to covet honor, I am the most offending soul.

William Shakespeare

Honor

It is better to deserve honors and not have them than to have them and not deserve them.

Mark Twain

Honor

It is forbidden to decry other sects; the true believer gives honor to whatever in them is worthy of honor.

Asoka

Decree.

Honor

It is in the character of very few men to honor without envy a friend who has prospered.

Aeschylus

Agamemnon, 832

Honor

Mine honor is my life; both grow in one;

Take honor from me, and my life is done.

William Shakespeare

King Richard II, I, i, 182

Honor

Neither a borrower, nor a lender be;

For loan oft loses both itself and friend,

And borrowing dulls the edge of husbandry.

This above all: to thine own self be true,

And it must follow, as the night the day,

Thou canst not then be false to any man.

William Shakespeare

Hamlet, I, iii, 75

Honor

Never esteem anything as of advantage to thee that shall make thee break thy word or lose thy self-respect.

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

Meditations, III, 7

Honor

Not even Achilles will bring all his words to fulfillment.

Homer

The Iliad, Xx, 369

Honor

Of men who have a sense of honor, more come through alive than are slain, but from those who flee comes neither glory nor any help.

Homer

The Iliad, XV, 653

Honor

Set honor in one eye and death i' the other,

And I will look on both indifferently.

William Shakespeare

Julius Caesar, I, ii, 86

Honor

The louder he talked of his honor, the faster we counted our spoons.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Honor

There is measure in all things.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Satires, I, i, 106

Honor

There stands the shadow of a glorious name.

Lucan

The Civil War, I, 135

Honor

Those are most desirous of honor and glory who cry out the loudest of its abuse and the vanity of the world.

Benedict Spinoza

Honor

What is left when honor is lost?

Publilius Syrus

Honor

You cannot believe in Honor until you have achieved it. Better keep yourself clean and bright: You are the window through which you must see the world.

George Bernard Shaw

Honor/Work

Honor lies in honest toil.

Grover Cleveland

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

A man is an ill husband of his honour, that entereth into any action, the failing wherein may disgrace him more than the carrying of it through can honour him.

Bacon, Of Honour And Reputation

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

A man seeking the fame of eloquence—before a judge who is also a man, with a multitude of men standing about—inveighs against his adversary with inhuman hatred. Such a man will be most vigilantly on guard lest by a slip of the tongue he drop an 'h' and murder the word "human": yet worries not at all that by the fury of his mind he may murder a real human.

Augustine, Confessions, I, 18

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

Ambition is like choler; which is an humour that maketh men active, earnest, full of alacrity, and stirring, if it be not stopped. But if it be stopped, and cannot have his way, it becometh adust, and thereby malign and venomous. So ambitious men, if they find the way open for their rising, and still get forward, they are rather busy than dangerous; but if they be checked in their desires, they become secretly discontent, and look upon men and matters with an evil eye.

Bacon, Of Ambition

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

As long as mankind shall continue to bestow more liberal applause on their destroyers than on their benefactors, the thirst of military glory will ever be the vice of the most exalted characters.

Gibbon, Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire, I

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

Certainly, great persons had need to borrow other men's opinions to think themselves happy; for if they judge by their own feeling, they cannot find it: but if they think with themselves what other men think of them, and that other men would fain be as they are, then they are happy as it were by report, when perhaps they find the contrary within.

Bacon, Of Great Place

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

Consider…the life lived by others in olden time, and the life of those who will live after thee, and the life now lived among barbarous nations, and how many know not even thy name, and how many will soon forget it, and how they who perhaps now are praising thee will very soon blame thee, and that neither a posthumous name is of any value, nor reputation, nor anything else.

Marcus Aurelius, Meditations, IX, 30

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

Fame is something which must be won; honor, only something which must not be lost. The absence of fame is obscurity, which is only a negative; but a loss of honor is shame, which is a positive quality.

Schopenhauer, Position, IV

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

Fame means being respected by everybody, or having some quality that is desired by all men, or by most, or by the good, or by the wise.

Aristotle, Rhetoric, 1361a25

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

Fame, if like a river, beareth up things light and swollen, and drowns things weighty and solid.

Bacon, Of Praise

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

Grief for the discovery of some defect of ability is shame, or the passion that discovereth itself in blushing, and consisteth in the apprehension of something dishonourable; and in young men is a sign of the love of good reputation, and commendable: in old men it is a sign of the same; but because it comes too late, not commendable.

Hobbes, Leviathan, I, 6

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

Hardly any of us have ethical energy enough for more than one really inflexible point of honor.

Shaw, Doctor's Dilemma, Pref.

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

Have you never seen people who, in order to complain of the little fuss you make about them, parade before you the example of great men who esteem them? In answer I reply to them, "Show me the merit whereby you have claimed these persons, and I also will esteem you."

Pascal, Pensees, V, 333

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

He who least likes courting favour, ought also least to think of resenting neglect; to feel wounded at being refused a distinction can only arise from an overwhelming appetite to have it.

Plutarch, Alcibiades and Coriolanus Compared

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

Honour is not that reward of virtue, for which the virtuous work, but they receive honour from men by way of reward as from those who have nothing greater to offer. But virtue's true reward is happiness itself, for which the virtuous work, whereas if they worked for honour, it would no longer be virtue, but ambition.

Aquinas, Summa Theoloica, I-II, 2, 2

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

Honour is, or should be, the place of virtue; and, as in nature, things move violently to their place, and calmly in their place; so virtue in ambition is violent, in authority settled and calm. All rising to great places is by a winding stair; and if there be factions, it is good to side a man's self whilst he is in the rising, and to balance himself when he is placed.

Bacon, Of Great Place

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

Honour sets all the parts of the body politic in motion, and by its very action connects them; thus each individual advances the public good, while he only thinks of promoting his own interest. True it is that, philosophically speaking, it is a false honour which moves all the parts of the government; but even this false honour is as useful to the public as true honour could possible be to private persons.

Montesquieu, Spirit of Laws, III, 7

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

I do not see what it makes for the safety, good morals, and certainly not for the dignity of men that some have conquered and other have been conquered, except that it yields them that most insane pomp of human glory, in which "they have received their reward" who burned with excessive desire of it and carried on most eager wars.

Augustine, City of God, V, 17

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

I trust a great deal to common fame, as we all must. If a man has good corn, or woods, or boards, or pigs to sell, or can make better chairs or knives, crucibles or church organs than anybody else, you will find a broad, hard-beaten road to his house, though it be in the woods.

Emerson, Journal (Feb. 1855)

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

It is only the love of honour that never grows old; and honour it is, not gain, as some would have it, that rejoices the heart of age and helplessness.

Thucydides, Peloponnesian War, II, 44

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

It is the fortune of all good men that their virtue rises in glory after their deaths, and that the envy which evil men conceive against them never outlives them long.

Plutarch, Numa Pompilius

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

It is…of the utmost importance that those who have any intention of deviating from the beaten roads of life, and acquiring a reputation superior to names hourly swept away by time among the refuse of fame, should add to their reason and their spirit of power of persisting in their purposes, acquire the art of sapping what they cannot batter, and the habit of vanquishing obstinate resistance by obstinate attacks.

Johnson, Rambler No. 43

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

It might perhaps be excusable for a painter or another artisan, or even for a rhetorician or a grammarian, to toil to acquire a name by his works; but the actions of virtue are too noble in themselves to seek any other reward than from their own worth, and especially to seek it in the vanity of human judgments.

Montaigne, Essays, II, 16, Of Glory

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

Let a man, as most men do, rate themselves at the highest value they can, yet their true value is no more than it is esteemed by others.

Hobbes, Leviathan, I, 10

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

Love of praise tempts me even when I reprove it in myself, indeed in the very fact that I do reprove it: a man often glories the more vainly for his very contempt of vainglory: for which reason he does not really glory in his contempt of glory: in that he glories in it, he does not condemn it.

Augustine, Confessions, X, 38

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

Many men have got a great name from the false opinions of the crowd. And what could be baser than such a thing? For those who are falsely praised, must blush to hear their praises. And if they are justly won by merits, what can they add to the pleasure of a wise man's conscience? For he measures his happiness not by popular talk, but by the truth of his conscience.

Boethius, Consolation of philosophy, III

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

Men can never acquire respect by benevolence alone, though they may gain love, so that the greatest beneficence only procures them honour when it is regulated by worthiness.

Kant, Critique of Practical Reason, Pt. I, II, 2

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

Most men seem rather inclined to confess the want of virtue rather than of importance.

Johnson, Rambler No. 13

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

No list of successes can bestow so much happiness as their diminution will cause annoyance.

Cicero, Disputations, I, 46

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

Nothing in life gives a man so much courage as the attainment or renewal of the conviction that other people regard him with favor; because it means that everyone joins to give him help and protection, which is an infinitely stronger bulwark against the ills of life than anything he can do himself.

Schopenhauer, Position, IV

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

Our estimate of personal merit is relative to the common faculties of mankind. The aspiring efforts of genius or virtue, either in active or speculative life, are measured not so much by their zeal elevation as by the height to which they ascend above the level of their age or country; and the same stature which in a people of giants would pass unnoticed, must appear conspicuous in a race of pigmies.

Gibbon, Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire, XLII

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

Shame, although it is not a virtue, is nevertheless good insofar as it shows that a desire of living uprightly is present in the man who is possessed with shame, just as pain is called good insofar as it shows that the injured part has not yet putrefied. A man, therefore, who is ashamed of what he has done, although he is sorrowful, is nevertheless more perfect than the shameless man who has no desire of living uprightly.

Spinoza,

Ethics, IV, Prop. 58, School.

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

That praises are without reason lavished on the dead, and that the honours due only to excellence are paid to antiquity, is a complaint likely to be always continued by those who, being able to add nothing to truth, hope for eminence from the heresies of paradox; or those who, being forced by disappointment upon consolatory expedients, are willing to hope from posterity what the present age refuses, and flatter themselves that the regard which is yet denied by envy will be at last bestowed by time.

Jonson, Preface to Shakespeare

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

The desire of glory is the last infirmity cast off even by the wise.

Tacitus, Histories, IV, 6

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

The manifestation of the value we set on one another is that which is commonly called honouring and dishonouring. To value a man at a high rate is to honour him; at a low rate is to dishonour him. But high and low, in this case, is to be understood by comparison to the rate that each man setteth on himself.

Hobbes, Leviathan, I, 10

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

The more a man imagines that he is praised by other men, the more is this joy strengthened; for the more a man imagines that he is praised by others, the more does he imagine that he affects others with joy accompanied by the idea of himself as a cause, and therefore he is affected with greater joy accompanied with the idea of himself.

Spinoza,

Ethics, III, Prop. 53, Corol.

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

The road to eminence and power, from obscure condition, ought not to be made too easy, nor a thing too much of course. If rare merit be the rarest of all rare things, it ought to pass through some sort of probation. The temple of honour ought to be seated on an eminence. If it be opened through virtue, let it be remembered too, that virtue is never tried but by some difficulty and some struggle.

Burke, Reflections on the Revolution in France

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

The role of true victory is in fighting, not in coming off safely; and the honor of valor consists in combating, not in beating.

Montaigne, Essays, I, 31, Of Cannibals

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

The savage lives within himself, while social man lives constantly outside himself, and only knows how to live in the opinion of others, so that he seems to receive the consciousness of his own existence merely from the judgment of others concerning him.

Rousseau, Origin of Inequality, II

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

The ultimate foundation of honor is the conviction that moral character is unalterable: a single bad action implies that future actions of the same kind will, under similar circumstances, also be bad.

Schopenhauer, Position, IV

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

There is something higher and greater in the admiration rendered by enemies to the virtue that had been their own obstacle, than in the grateful acknowledgments of friends. Since, in the one case, it is virtue alone that challenges itself the honour; while, in the other, it may be rather men's personal profit and advantage that is the real origin of what they do.

Plutarch, Marcellus and Pelopidas Compared

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

Those who desire honour from good men, and men who know, are aiming at confirming their own opinion of themselves; they delight in honour, therefore, because they believe in their own goodness on the strength of the judgement of those who speak about them.

Aristotle, Ethics, 1159a22

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

Time as it goes round changes the seasons of things. That which was in esteem, falls at length into utter disrepute; and then another thing mounts up and issues out of its degraded state and every day is more and more coveted and blossoms forth high in honour when discovered and is in marvellous repute with men.

Lucretius, Nature of Things, V

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

We care more that people should speak of us than how they speak of us; and it is enough for us that our name should be current in men's mouths, no matter in what way it may be current. It seems that to be known is to have one's life and duration somehow in the keeping of others.

Montaigne, Essays, II, 16, Of Glory

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

We lend our goods and our lives to the need of our friends; but to communicate one's honor and endow another with one's glory, that is hardly ever seen.

Montaigne, Essays, I, 41, Not Communicating One's Glory

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

Well is it known that ambition can creep as well as soar. The pride of no person in a flourishing condition is more justly to be dreaded than that of him who is mean and cringing under a doubtful and unprosperous fortune.

Burke, Letters on a Regicide Peace, III

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

What utter foolishness it is to be afraid that those who have a bad name can rob you of a good one.

Seneca, Letters to Lucilius, 91

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

Whom does false honour delight, or lying calumny terrify, except the vicious and sickly-minded?

Horace, Epistles, I, 16

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

With regard to honour and dishonour the mean is proper pride, the excess is known as a sort of 'empty vanity', and the deficiency is undue humility.

Aristotle, Ethics, 1107b21

Honor/Reputation/Fame/Glory

If people insist that honor is dearer than life itself, what they really mean is that existence and well-being are as nothing compared with other people's opinions. Of course, this may be only an exaggerated way of stating the prosaic truth that reputation, that is, the opinion others have of us, is indispensable if we are to make any progress in the world.

Schopenhauer, Position, I

Hope

He receives hope in future benefits who recognizes a benefit that has already taken place.

Magnus Aurelius Cassiodorus

Institutiones

Hope

He that lives upon hope will die fasting.

Benjamin Franklin

Hope

He who would not be frustrate of his hope to write well hereafter in laudable things ought himself to be a true poem.

John Milton

Apology for Smectymnuus

Hope

Hope is a good breakfast, but it is a bad supper.

Francis Bacon

Apothegms, no. 36

Hope

Hope is a very unruly emotion.

Gloria Steinem

Hope

Hope is a waking dream.

Aristotle

From Diogenes Laertius, V, 18

Hope

Hope is like the sun, which as we journey towards it, casts the shadows of our burdens behind us.

Samuel Smiles

Hope

Hope is man's curse: many states has it

Involved in strife, by leading them to excessive rage.

For, if the city votes on the question of war,

No man ever takes his own death into account,

But shifts his misfortune to his neighbor.

Euripides (485-406 B.C.)

The Suppliants (c. 420 B.C.)

Hope

Hope is the golden thread that should be woven into every experience of life.

Author Unknown

Hope

Hope is the most treacherous of human fancies.

James Fenimore Cooper

Hope

Hope is the pillar that holds up the world.

Hope is the dream of a waking man.

Pliny the Elder

Hope

Hope springs eternal in the human breast.

Alexander Pope

Hope

Hope, which most of all guides the changeful mind of mortals.

Pindar

Hope

How deceitful hope may be, yet she carries us on pleasantly to the end of life.

Duc de la Rochefoucauld

Hope

I feel again a spark of that ancient flame.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aeneid, IV, 23

Hope

I know how men in exile feed on dreams of hope.

Aeschylus

Agamamnon, 1668

Hope

In all things, it is better to hope than to despair.

Goethe

Hope

It is certainly wrong to despair; and if despair is wrong hope is right.

John Lubbock

Hope

It is not necessary to hope in order to undertake, nor to succeed in order to persevere.

Charles The Bold

Hope

LASCIATE OGNI ESPERANZA, VOL CH'ENTRATE.

ABANDON ALL HOPE YE WHO ENTER HERE.

And he to me: "These are the nearly soulless

whose lives concluded neither blame nor praise."

They re mixed here with that despicable corps

Of Angels who were neither for God nor Satan,

but only for themselves….

"Master, what gnaws at them so hideously,

their lamentations stun the very air?"

"They have no hope of death," he answered me….

Dante (or Durante) Alighieri (1265-1321)

The Divine Comedy (C. 1307-1320): The Inferno (Tr. Ciardi Canto III

Hope

Perhaps some day it will be pleasant to remember even this.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aeneid, I, 203

Hope

So, cutting the lashing of the waterproof match keg, after many failures Starbuck contrived to ignite the lamp in the lantern; then stretching it on a waif pole, handed it to Queequeg as the standard-bearer of this forlorn hope. There, then, he sat, holding up that imbecile candle in the heart of that almighty forlornness. There, then, he sat, the sign and symbol of a man without faith, hopelessly holding up hope in the midst of despair.

Herman Melville, Moby-Dick, chapter 48, p. 251 (1851).

Hope

The miserable have no other medicine

But only hope.

William Shakespeare

Measure for Measure, III, i, 2

Hope

There is but one safety to the vanquished—to hope not safety.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aeneid, II, 354

Hope

There's hope a great man's memory may outlive his life half a year.

William Shakespeare

Hamlet, III, ii, 141

Hope

Things which you do not hope happen more frequently than things which you do hope.

Titus Maccius Plautus

Mostellaria, act I, sc. iii, l. 40

Hope

True hope is swift, and flies with swallow's wings;

Kings it makes gods, and meaner creatures kings.

William Shakespeare

King Richard III, V, ii, 23

Hope

Vain hopes are often like the dreams of those who wake.

Quintilian [Marcus Fabius Quintilianus]

De Institutione Oratoria, VI, 2, 30

Hope

Who feed on Hope, hang on but do not live.

Desiderius Erasmus (1465-1536)

Colloquies

Hope

Without hope we live in desire.

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy. Inferno, canto IV, 42

Hospitality

Let not the emphasis of hospitality lie in bed and board; but let truth and love and honor and courtesy flow in all thy deeds.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Human Greatness

Compared with the short span of time they live, men of great intellect are like huge buildings, standing on a small plot of ground. The size of the building cannot be seen by anyone, just in front of it; nor, for an analogous reason, can the greatness of a genius be estimated while he lives. But when a century has passed, the world recognizes it and wishes him back again.

Schopenhauer, Reputation

Human Greatness

Every hero is a Samson. The strong man succumbs to the intrigues of the weak and the many; and if in the end he loses all patience he crushes both them and himself. Or he is like Gulliver at Liliput, overwhelmed by an enormous number of little men.

Schopenhauer, A Few Parables

Human Greatness

Every true man is a cause, a country, and an age; requires infinite spaces and numbers and time fully to accomplish his design; and posterity seem to follow his steps as a train of clients. A man Caesar is born, and for ages after we have a Roman Empire. Christ is born, and millions of minds so grow and cleave to his genius that He is confounded with virtue and the possible of man. An institution is the lengthened shadow of one man.

Emerson, Self-Reliance

Human Greatness

Faith is loyalty to some inspired Teacher, some spiritual Hero. And what therefore is loyalty proper, the life-breath of all society, but an efficence of Hero-worship, submissive admiration for the truly great? Society is founded on Hero-worship.

Carlyle, The Hero as Divinity

Human Greatness

Great men, like great epochs, are explosve material in whom tremendous energy has been accumulated; their prerequisite has always been, historically and physiologically, that of a protracted assembling, accumulating, economizing and preserving has preceeded them—that there has been no explosion for a long time.

Nietzsche, Twilight of the Idols: Expeditions of an Untimely Man

Human Greatness

I sought great human beings, I never found anything but the apes of their ideal.

Nietzsche, Twilight of the Idols: Maxims and Arrows

Human Greatness

In all epochs of the world's history, we shall find the Great Man to have been the indispensable saviour of his epoch;—the lightning, without which the fuel never would have burnt. The History of the World…was the Biography of Great Men.

Carlyle, The Hero as Divinity

Human Greatness

In his journey [to Spain] as he was crossing the Alps, and passing by a small village of the barbarians with but few inhabitants, and those wretchedly poor, his companions asked the question among themselves by way of mockery, if there were any canvassing for offices there, any contention which should be uppermost, or feuds of great men one against another. To which Caesar made answer seriously, "For my part, I had rather be the first man among these fellows, than the second man in Rome."

Plutarch, Caesar

Human Greatness

Is it to be expected that a farmer will busy himself sowing trees, no fruit of which his eyes will ever see, and a great man will not likewise sow the seeds of laws, institutions, and public policy?

Cicero, Disputations, I, 14

Human Greatness

It is indeed too sad that in life it should be as it is in chess, when one false move may lose us the game, but with the difference that we can have no second game, no return-match. In the realm of fiction we discover that plurality of lives for which we crave. We die in the person of a given hero, yet we survive him, and are ready to die again, with the next hero just as safely.

Freud, Thoughts on War and Death, II

Human Greatness

It is not…easy for mental giants who neither hate nor intend to injure their fellows to realize that, nevertheless, their fellows hate mental giants and would like to destroy them, not only enviously because the juxtaposition of a superior wounds their vanity, but quite humbly and honestly because it frightens them. Fear will drive men to any extreme; and the fear inspired by a superior being is a mystery which cannot be reasoned away.

Shaw, Saint Joan, Pref.

Human Greatness

It is possible to fail in many ways…while to succeed is possible only in one way (for which reason also one is easy and the other difficult—to miss the mark easy, to hit it difficult).

Aristotle, Ethics, 1106b28

Human Greatness

Many have…perished, even good men, despising slow and safe success and hurrying on even at the cost of ruin to premature greatness.

Tacitus, Annals, III, 66

Human Greatness

Men do not always take their great thinkers seriously, even when they profess most to admire them.

Freud, Group Psychology and Analysis of the Ego, IV

Human Greatness

Nothing great . . is produced suddenly, since not even the grape or the fig is. If you say to me now that you want a fig, I will answer to you that it requires time: let it flower first, then put forth fruit, and then ripen. Is, then, the fruit of a figtree not perfected suddenly and in one hour, and would you possess the fruit of a man's mind in so short a time and so easily? Do not expect it, even if I tell you.

Epictetus, Discourses, I, 15

Human Greatness

One man, choosing a proper juncture, leaps into a gulf, thence proceeds a hero, and is called the saviour of his country: another achieves the same enterprise, but, unluckily timing it, has left the brand of madness fixed as a reproach upon his memory.

Swift,

Tale of a Tub, IX

Human Greatness

Show our critics a great man, a Luther for example, and they begin what they call 'account' for him; not to worhsip him, but take the dimensions of him and bring him out to be a little kind of man!

Carlyle, The Hero as Divinity

Human Greatness

The appellation of great has been often bestowed, and sometimes deserved, but Charlemagne is the only prince in whose favour the title has been indissolubly blended with the name.

Gibbon, Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire, XLIX

Human Greatness

The errors and follies of a great genius are seldom without some radiations of understanding, by which meaner minds may be enlightened.

Johnson, Rambler No. 29

Human Greatness

The first epic poet…invented the heroic myth. The hero was a man who by himself had slain the father—the father who still appeared in the myth as a totemistic monster. Just as the father had been the boy's first ideal, so in the hero who aspires to the father's place the poet now created the first ego ideal.

Freud, Group Psychology and Analysis of the Ego, XII

Human Greatness

The genius—in his works and in his deeds—is necessarily a prodigal: his greatness lies in the fact that he expends himself.

Nietzsche, Twilight of the Idols: Expeditions of an Untimely Man

Human Greatness

The wit, the hero, the philosopher, whom their tempers or their fortunes have hindered from intimate relations, die without any other effect than that of adding a new topic to the conversation of the day.

Johnson, Rambler No. 78

Human Greatness

Through a fatality inseparable from human nature, moderation in great men is very rare. And as it is always much easier to push on force in the direction in which it moves than to stop its movement, so in the superior class of the people, it is less difficult, perhaps, to find men extremely virtuous, than extremely prudent.

Montesquieu, Spirit of Laws, XXVIII, 41

Human Greatness

To a lackey no man can be great, for a lackey has his own conception of greatness.

Tolstoy,

War and Peace, XV, 5

Human Greatness

True great genius is always accompanied with good sense.

Boswell, London Journal (Dec. 17, 1762)

Human Greatness

We have seen many counterfeits, but we are born believers in great men.

Emerson, Character

Human Greatness

When a true Genius appears in the World, you may know him by this sign, that the Dunces are all in confederacy against him.

Swift,

Thoughts on Various Subjects

Human Greatness

Who noble ends by noble means obtains,

Or failing, smiles in exile or in chains,

Like good Aurelius let him reign, or bleed

Like Socrates, that Man is great indeed.

Pope, Essay on Man, Epistle IV, 233

Human Greatness

Without doubt princes become great when they overcome the difficulties and obstacles by which they are confronted, and therefore fortune, especially when she desires to make a new prince great, who has a greater necessity to earn renown than an hereditary one, causes enemies to arise and form designs against him, in order that he may have the opportunity of overcoming them, and by them to mount higher, as by a ladder which his enemies have raised.

Machiavelli, Prince, XX

Human Nature

All human actions have one or more of these seven causes: chance, nature, compulsions, habit, reason, passion, desire.

Aristotle

Rhetoric, 1.

Human Nature

But when I saw the impenetrable mist which surrounds human affairs, the wicked happy and long prosperous and the good discomforted, then in turn my belief in God was weakened and failed.

Claudian (Claudius Claudianus) (c. 375-408)

In Rufinum

Human Nature

For to err in opinion, though it be not the part of wise men, is at least human.

Plutarch

Morals. Against Colotes

Human Nature

Human action can be modified to some extent, but human nature cannot be changed.

Abraham Lincoln

Human Nature

Human nature is the same all over the world.

Philip Dormer Stanhope,

Fourth Earl of Chesterfield

Letters to his Son, October 2, 1747.

Human Nature

If the State acts in ways abhorrent to human nature, it is the lesser evil to destroy it.

Baruch Spinoza

Human Nature

If we are not ashamed to think it, we should not be ashamed to say it.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

Human Nature

Man is a religious animal. He is the only religious animal. He is the only animal that has the True Religion—several of them. He is the only animal that loves his neighbor as himself and cuts his throat if his theology isn't straight.

Samuel Langhorne Clemens ("Mark Twain") (1835-1910)

The Damned Human Race

Human Nature

Man's nature is made up of four elements, which produce in him four attributes, namely, the beastly, the brutal, the satanic, and the divine. In man there is something of the pig, the dog, the devil, and the saint.

Abu Hamid Muhammad Ibn Muhammad Al-Ghazali (1058-1111)

The Main Problems of Abu Nasr Al-Paraba

Human Nature

Men's natures are alike; it is their habits that carry them apart.

Confucius (551-479 B.C.)

Analects (various translations)

Human Nature

No one cares to speak to an unwilling listener. An arrow never lodges in a stone: often it recoils upon the sender of it.

St. Jerome

Letter, 52

Human Nature

O human race, born to fly upward, wherefore at a little wind dost thou so fall?

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy. Purgatorio, canto XII, 95

Human Nature

Some people ask, "What if the sky were to fall?"

Terence [Publius Terentius Afer]

Heauton Timoroumenos (The Self-Tormentor), 719

Human Nature

The higher animals engage in individual fights, but never in organized masses. Man is the only animal that deals in that atrocity of atrocities, War.

Samuel L. Clemens ("Mark Twain") (1835-1910)

The Damned Human Race

Human Nature

The human race is a race of cowards.

Samuel L. Clemens ("Mark Twain") (1835-1910)

Mark Twain in Eruption (published 1949)

Human Nature

The word degenerate, when applied to a people, means (as it ought to mean) that the people has no longer the same intrinsic value as it had before, because it has no longer the same blood in its veins, continual adulterations having gradually affected the quality of that blood.

Joseph Arthur Count de Gobineau (1816-1882)

The Inequality of Human Races (1853-1855)

Human Nature

There are times when one would like to hang the whole human race, and finish the farce.

Samuel L. Clemens ("Mark Twain") (1835-1910)

"The Revised Catechism," Contribution, New York Tribune, September 27, 1871

Human Nature

There is no crime of which one cannot imagine oneself to be the author.

Johann W. von Goethe

Human Rights

My position as regards the monied interests can be put in a few words. In every civilized society property rights must be carefully safeguarded; ordinarily and in the great majority of cases, human rights and property rights are fundamentally and in the long run, identical; but when it clearly appears that there is a real conflict between them, human rights must have the upper hand; for property belongs to man and not man to property.

Theodore Roosevelt, address at the Sorbonne, Paris, France, April 23, 1910.—"Citizenship in a Republic," The Strenuous Life (vol. 13 of The Works of Theodore Roosevelt, national ed.), chapter 21, pp. 515-16 (1926).

Human Rights

On September 17, 1914, Erzberger, the well-known German statesman, an eminent member of the Catholic Party, wrote to the Minister of War, General von Falkenhayn, "We must not worry about committing an offence against the rights of nations nor about violating the laws of humanity. Such feelings today are of secondary importance"? A month later, on October 21, 1914, he wrote in Der Tag, "If a way was found of entirely wiping out the whole of London it would be more humane to employ it than to allow the blood of A SINGLE GERMAN SOLDIER to be shed on the battlefield!"

Georges Clemenceau, quoting Matthias Erzberger, Grandeur and Misery of Victory, trans. F. M. Atkinson, p. 279 (1930).

Human Rights

The sacred rights of mankind are not to be rummaged for among old parchments or musty records. They are written, as with a sunbeam, in the whole volume of human nature, by the hand of the divinity itself; and can never be erased or obscured by mortal power.

Alexander Hamilton, "The Farmer Refuted," The Works of Alexander Hamilton, ed. John C. Hamilton, vol. 2, p. 80 (1850).

Human Rights

Where, after all, do universal human rights begin? In small places, close to home-so close and so small that they cannot be seen on any map of the world. Yet they are the world of the individual person: the neighborhood he lives in; the school or college he attends; the factory, farm or office where he works. Such are the places where every man, woman and child seeks equal justice, equal opportunity, equal dignity without discrimination. Unless these rights have meaning there, they have little meaning anywhere. Without concerted citizen action to uphold them close to home, we shall look in vain for progress in the larger world.

Eleanor Roosevelt, remarks at presentation of booklet on human rights, In Your Hands, to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, United Nations, New York, March 27, 1958.—United Nations typescript of statements at presentation (microfilm).This quotation, lacking the final sentence, was used by Adlai E. Stevenson in 1963 on his Christmas card.

Humanity

I cannot think of the present state of humanity as that in which it is destined to remain…. Only in so far as I can regard this state as the means toward a better, as the transition-point into a higher and more perfect state, has it any value in my eyes.

Johann Gottlieb Fichte (1762-1814)

Bestimmung des Menschen [vocation of Man] (1800)

Humanity

I know of no rights of race superior to the rights of humanity.

Frederick Douglass

Humanity

If intelligence and piety may not be the foundation of a caste, on what ground shall they who have no distinction but wealth, superior costume, richer equipages, finer houses, draw lines around themselves and constitute themselves a higher class?

William Ellery Channing

On the Elevation of the Laboring Classes, 1840.

Humanity

If you must do violence and injury to the willow in order to make cups and bowls with it…you must in the same way do violence and injury to humanity in order to fashion from it benevolence and righteousness! [This], alas! would certainly lead all men on to

reckon benevolence and righteousness to be calamities.

Mencius

Book VI, 1:1.2

Humanity

Let us have but one end in view, the welfare of humanity; and let us put aside all selfishness in consideration of language, nationality, or religion.

John Comenius

Humanity

Of all treasons against humanity, there is no one worse than his who employs great intellectual force to keep down the intellect of his less favored brothers.

William Ellery Channing

On the Elevation of the Laboring Classes, 1840.

Humanity

Oh wearisome condition of humanity!

Born under one law, to another bound.

Fulke Greville, Lord Brooke

Mustapha, V, 4

Humanity

One writes a letter, taking particular trouble to get it up as prettily as possible; then waits for the answer, making sure every moment that it cannot be much longer before something comes. At last, frightfully late, is brought in—one's own note, still folded or tied exactly as one sent it, but so fingermarked and smudged that even the address is barely legible. "The family is not in residence," the messenger says, giving one back the note.

Sei Shonagon

Makura no Soshi

Humanity

Our humanity were a poor thing were it not for the divinity which stirs within us.

Francis Bacon

Humanity

Such is the human race. Often it does seem such a pity that Noah…didn't miss the boat.

Mark Twain

Humanity

T here has been developing a new doctrine, which must give the final trust to the tottering edifice of prejudices. It is the doctrine of the indefinite perfectibility of the human race.

Marie Jean Nicolas Antoine de Caritat,

Marquise de Condorcet (1743-1794)

Sketch for a Historical Picture of the Progress of the Human Spirit

Humanity

The more humanity advances, the more it is degraded.

Gustave Flaubert

Humanity

Were I a nightingale, I would sing like a nightingale; were I a swan, like a swan. But as it is, I am a rational being, therefore I must sing hymns of praise to God.

Epictetus

Discourses, I, 16

Humanity

What care I that I am called a "drinker of blood?" Well, let us drink the blood of the enemies of humanity.

Georges Jacques Danton (1759-guillotined 1794)

Address, National Assembly, 1793

Humility

'Tis not the drinking that is to be blamed, but the excess.

John Selden

Table Talk. Humility

Humility

A fault that humbles a man is of greater value than a virtue that puffs him up.

Author Unknown

Humility

Between the humble and the contrite heart and the majesty of heaven there are no barriers; the only password is prayer.

Hosea Ballou

Humility

Humility is the ladder to divine understanding.

Author Unknown

Humility

I believe that the first test of a truly great man is his humility. Really great men have a curious feeling that the greatness is not in them but through them. And they see something divine in every other men and are endlessly, incredibly merciful.

John Ruskin

Humility

I believe the first test of a truly great man is humility.

John Ruskin

Humility

If you are right, take the humble side—You will help the other fellow. If you are wrong, take the humble side—and you will help yourself.

Author Unknown

Humility

It is harder to be poor without murmuring than rich without arrogance.

Confucius

Humility

It is no great thing to be humble when you are brought low, but to be humble when you are praised is a great attainment.

St. Bernard

Humility

North Carolina is a valley of humility between two mountains of conceit.

Author unknown.—For a discussion of its origin and correct wording ("humility," not "humiliation" as given by Mencken in his New Dictionary of Quotations…), see the editorial comments by Henry Wiseman Kendall in the Greensboro (North Carolina) Daily News, August 26, 1962, p. B4.

Humility

Nothing sets a person so much out of the devil's reach as humility.

Jonathan Edwards

Humility

Sometimes even good old Homer nods.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Epistles, III, 359

Humility

The fact that people do not understand and respect the very best things, such as Mozart's concertos, is what permits men like us to become famous.

Johannes Brahms

Humility

The human body is a peculiar device, pat it on the back and the head swells.

Author Unknown

Humility

The more humble a man is before God, the more he will be exalted; the more humble he is before man, the more he will get rode roughshod.

Josh Billings

Humility

The true way to be humble is not to stoop till you are smaller than yourself; but to stand at your real height against some higher nature that shall show you what the real smallness of your greatness is.

Phillips Brooks

Humility

They are proud in humility, proud in that they are not proud.

Robert Burton

Humility

True humility is not an abject, groveling, self-despising spirit; it is but a right estimate of ourselves as God sees us.

Tyron Edwards

Humility

We love those people who give with humility, or who accept with ease.

Freya Stark

Humility

[When described by Hermodotus as "Son of the Sun"] My valet is not aware of this.

Antigonus

From Plutarch, Apothegms, Antigonus

Humor

Everything is funny as long as it is happening to somebody else.

Will Rogers

Humor

From the crown of his head to the sole of his foot, he is all mirth.

William Shakespeare

Much Ado About Nothing, III, ii, 9

Humor

God Bless America for a sense of humor.

Will Rogers

Humor

Good-humor makes all things tolerable.

Henry Ward Beecher

Hypocrisy

A conservative government is an organized hypocrisy.

Benjamin Disraeli

Hypocrisy

He blam'd and protested, and join'd in the plan;

He shared in the plunder, but pitied the man.

William Cowper

Hypocrisy

He who acts wickedly in private life, can never be expected to show himself noble in public conduct. He that is base at home, will not acquit himself with honor abroad; for it is not the man, but only the place that is changed.

Æschines

Hypocrisy

Hypocrisy can afford to be magnificent in its promises; for never intending to go beyond promises, it costs nothing.

Edmund Burke

Hypocrisy

Hypocrisy—prejudice with a halo.

Ambrose Bierce

Hypocrisy

I hope you have not been leading a double life, pretending to be wicked, and being really good all the time. That would be hypocrisy.

Oscar Wilde

Hypocrisy

I will have nought to do with a man who can blow hot and cold with the same breath.

Aesop

Hypocrisy

It is no fault of Christianity that a hypocrite falls into sin.

St. Jerome

Letter 125

Hypocrisy

Lots of people laugh one way and vote another.

Will Rogers

Hypocrisy

One may smile, and smile, and be a villain.

William Shakespeare

Hypocrisy

Woe be unto those who pray, and who are negligent at their prayer: who play the hypocrites, and deny necessaries to the needy.

The Koran

Chapter 107

Idealists

An idealist believes the short run doesn't count. A cynic believes the long run doesn't matter. A realist believes that what is done or left undone in the short run determines the long run.

Sydney J. Harris, in his column "Thoughts at Large," for the Chicago Sun-Times. Reprinted in Ann Landers's column, The Washington Post, November 12, 1979, p. B7.

Idealists

An idealist is one who, on noticing that a rose smells better than a cabbage, concludes that it is also more nourishing.

H. L. Mencken, A Little Book in C Major p. 19 (1916).He later altered this to read "…concludes that it will also make better soup."—A Book of Burlesques, p. 205 (1924) and A Mencken Chrestomathy, p. 617 (1949).

Idealists

Behold! human beings living in an underground den….Like ourselves…they see only their own shadows, or the shadows of one another, which the fire throws on the opposite wall of the cave.

Plato

The Republic, VII, 515-B

Idealists

Man is born a predestined idealist, for he is born to act. To act is to affirm the worth of an end, and to persist in affIrming the worth of an end is to make an ideal.

Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, "The Class of '61," speech delivered at the 50th anniversary of graduation, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, June 28, 1911.—Speeches by Oliver Wendell Holmes, pp. 96-97 (1934).

Idealists

Sometimes people call me an idealist. Well, that is the way I know I am an American. America, my fellow citizens—I do not say it in disparagement of any other great people—America is the only idealistic nation in the world.

President Woodrow Wilson, address supporting the League of Nations, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, September 8, 1919.—The Messages and Papers of Woodrow Wilson, ed. Albert Shaw, vol. 2, p. 822 (1924).

Ideals

Aut Caesar, aut nihil. (Either Caesar or nothing.)

Cesare Borgia

Motto.

Ideals

Build on, and make thy castles high and fair,

Rising and Reaching upward to the skies;

Listen to voices in the upper air,

Nor lose thy simple faith in mysteries.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Ideals

Conventionality is not morality. Self-righteousness is not religion. To

attack the first is not to assail the last.

Charlotte Brontë

Jane Eyre.

Ideals

I may be attacked, I may be assailed, I may be killed, I may be murdered, but I never will succumb. I never will abandon the cause of truth, morals and virtue.

James Gordon Bennett

Editorial, New York Morning Herald, May 10, 1836.

Ideals

I mean to make myself a man; and if I succeed in that; I shall succeed in everything.

James A. Garfield

Ideals

Ideals are like stars, you will not succeed in touching them with your hands. But like the seafaring mariner on the desert of waters, you choose them as your guides, and following them you will succeed in reaching your destiny.

Carl Schurz

Ideals

If you would lift me up you must be on higher ground.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Ideals

Keep your mind on the great and splendid things you would like to do and then, as the days go gliding by you will find yourself unconsciously seizing the opportunities that are required for the fulfillment of your desire. Picture in your mind the able, earnest, useful person you desire to be, and the thought you hold is hourly transforming you into that particular individual you so admire.

Elbert Hubbard

Ideals

Life is a sheet of paper white,

Whereon each one of us may write

His word or two, and then comes night.

Greatly begin! Though thou have time

But for a line, be that sublime—

Not failure, but low aim, is crime.

James Russell Lowell

Ideals

Show me the man you honor, and I will show you the kind of a man you are, for it shows me what your ideal of manhood is, and what kind of a man you long to be.

Thomas Carlyle

Ideals

The ideal life is in our blood and never will be still. Sad will be the day for any man when he becomes contented with the thoughts he is thinking and the deeds he is doing—where there is not forever beating at the doors of his soul some great desire to do something larger; which he knows he was meant and made to do.

Author Unknown

Ideals

We aim in the domain of politics at republicanism; in the domain of economics at socialism; in the domain of what is today called religion, at atheism.

August Bebel

Summary of Views.

Ideals

Where'er a noble deed is wrought,

Where'er is spoken a noble thought,

Our hearts in glad surprise

To higher levels rise.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Ideas

A fresh mind keeps the body fresh. Take in the ideas of the day, drain off those of yesterday. As to the morrow, time enough to consider it when it becomes today.

Edward G. Bulwer-Lytton

Ideas

First say to yourself what you would be; and then do what you have to do.

Epictetus

Discourses, III, 23

Ideas

I shall die and the worms will eat me, but I want our idea to triumph. I want the masses of humanity to be truly emancipated from all authorities and from all heroes, present and to come.

Mikhail A. Bakunin

Quoted by Eugene Pyziur, The Doctrine of Anarchism of Michael A. Bakunin,

1955, p.6.

Ideas

Ideas are like rabbits. You get a couple and learn how to handle them, and pretty soon you have a dozen.

John Steinbeck

Ideas

Indeed, what is there that does not appear marvelous when it comes to our knowledge for the first time? How many things, too, are looked upon as quite impossible until they have been actually effected?

Pliny the Elder

Natural History, VII, 6

Ideas

Mr Kremlin himself was distinguished for ignorance, for he had only one idea,—and that was wrong.

Benjamin Disraeli, Sybil, book 4, chapter 5, p. 273 (1980). First published in 1845.

Ideas

Neither man or nation can exist without a sublime idea.

Fyodor Dostoyevski

Ideas

One of the greatest pains to human nature is the pain of a new idea.

George F. Baer

Physics and Politics.

Ideas

So many new ideas are at first strange and horrible though ultimately valuable that a very heavy responsibility rests upon those who would prevent their dissemination.

J. B. S. Haldane

Ideas

The best ideas are common property.

Lucius Annaeus Seneca

Epistles, 12, 11

Ideas

The best ideas are common property.

Seneca

Ideas

The composition of this book has been for the author a long struggle of escape, and so must the reading of it be for most readers if the author's assault upon them is to be successful,—a struggle of escape from habitual modes of thought and expression. The ideas which are here expressed so laboriously are extremely simple and should be obvious. The difficulty lies, not in the new ideas, but in escaping from the old ones, which ramify, for those brought up as most of us have been, into every corner of our minds.

John Maynard Keynes, The General Theory of Employment, Interest and Money, Preface, p. viii (1936).

Ideas

The ideas gained by men before they are twenty-five are practically the only ideas they shall have in their lives.

William James

Ideas

The key to every man is his thought…. He can only be reformed by showing him a new idea which commands his own.

Ralph Waldo Emerson, "Circles," Essays: First Series, p. 303 (1903).

Ideas

The real Antichrist is he who turns the wine of an original idea into the water of mediocrity.

Eric Hoffer, "Thoughts of Eric Hoffer, Including: 'Absolute Faith Corrupts Absolutely,'" The New York Times Magazine, April 25, 1971, p. 60.

Ideas

The value of an idea has nothing whatsoever to do with the sincerity of the man who expresses it.

Oscar Wilde

Ideas

There is always something new out of Africa.

Pliny the Elder

Natural History, VIII, 17

Ideas

When an idea is wanting a word can always be found to take its place.

Johann W. von Goethe

Idleness

A wrongdoer is often a man that has left something undone, not always he that has done something.

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

Meditations, IX, 5

Idleness

Be ashamed to catch yourself idle.

Benjamin Franklin

Idleness

But men must know, that in this theater of man's life it is reserved only for God and the angels to be lookers on.

Francis Bacon

Advancement of Learning.

Idleness

Friends and neighbors, the taxes are indeed very heavy, and if those laid on by the government were the only ones we had to pay, we might more easily discharge them; but we have many others, and much more grievous to some of us. We are taxed twice as much by our idleness, three times as much by our pride, and four times as much by our folly; and from these taxes the commissioners cannot ease or deliver us by allowing abatement.

Benjamin Franklin

Idleness

Idleness and lack of occupation are the best things in the world to ruin the foolish.

Dio Chrysostom

Tenth Discourse, On Servants, ch. 7

Idleness

Idleness is an appendix to nobility.

Robert Burton

Idleness

Idleness is emptiness; the tree in which the sap is stagnant remains fruitless.

Hosea Ballou

Idleness

Idleness is only the refuge of weak minds.

Philip Stanhope

Idleness

It is no rest to be idle.

Paul Peel

Idleness

It would be thought a hard government that should tax its people one-tenth part of their time to be employed in its service. But idleness taxes many of us much more, if we reckon all that is spent in absolute sloth, or doing of nothing, with that which is spent in idle employments or amusements that amount to nothing.

Benjamin Franklin

Idleness

La molesse est douce, et sa suite est cruelle.

(Idleness is sweet, and its consequences are cruel.)

Attributed to John Quincy Adams, in his diary. Unverified.

Idleness

Never less idle than when wholly idle, nor less alone than when wholly alone.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

De Officiis, III, 1

Idleness

One would grow poor staying in one place always.

Poem of the Cid

Line 948

Idleness

Sloth, like rust, consumes faster than labor wears; while the used key is bright.

Benjamin Franklin

Idleness

That indolent but agreeable condition of doing nothing.

Pliny the Younger

Letters, VIII, 9

Idleness

This miserable state is borne by the wretched souls of those who lived without disgrace and without praise.

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy. Inferno, canto III, 34

Idleness

To while away the idle hours, seated the livelong day before the ink slab, by jotting down without order of purpose whatever trifling thoughts pass through my mind, verily this is a queer and crazy thing to do.

Yoshida Kenko

Tsurezure-Gusa (Essays in Idleness)

Idleness

Trouble springs from idleness, and grievous toil from needless ease. Many, without labor, would live by their wits only, but they break for want of stock.

Benjamin Franklin

Idleness

We all live in a state of ambitious poverty.

Decimus Junius Juvenal

Satires, III, 182

Ignorance

'Tis the mind that makes the body rich.

William Shakespeare

Ignorance

And here, poor fool, with all my lore

I stand no wiser than before.

Johann W. von Goethe

Ignorance

Better be ignorant of a matter than half know it.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 865

Ignorance

Everybody is ignorant only on different subjects.

Will Rogers.

—Paula McSpadden Love,

The Will Rogers Book,

p. 119 (1972).

Ignorance

I have never met a man so ignorant that I couldn't learn something from him.

Galileo Galilei

Ignorance

I would rather have my ignorance than another man's knowledge, because I have got so much more of it.

Mark Twain

Ignorance

Ignorance and superstition ever bear a close and mathematical relation to each other.

James Fenimore Cooper (1789-1851)

Jack Tier

Ignorance

Ignorance plays the chief part among men, and the multitude of words.

Diogenes Laertius

Cleobulus, 4

Ignorance

Ignorant men

Don't know what good they hold in their hands until

They've flung it away.

Sophocles, "Ajax," trans. John Moore, The Complete Greek Tragedies, ed. David Grene and Richmond Lattimore, vol. 2, p. 250 (1959).Since there have been numerous translations of this play by Sophocles, these words—spoken by Tecmessa—vary. The translation by George Young, The Dramas of Sophocles, p. 102 (1888) reads, "Men of perverse opinion do not know / The excellence of what is in their hands, / Till some one dash it from them."

Ignorance

In the common people there is no wisdom, no penetration, no power of judgment.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

Pro Planchio.

Ignorance

In theory it is easy to convince an ignorant person; in actual life, men not only object to offering themselves to be convinced, but hate the man who has convinced them.

Epictetus

Ignorance

It is worse still to be ignorant of your ignorance.

St. Jerome

Ignorance

Nothing is more terrible than ignorance in action.

Abraham Lincoln

Ignorance

Nothing is worse than active ignorance.

(Es ist nichts schrecklicher als eine tätige Unwissenheit.)

Johann Wolfgang Von Goethe, Goethe's World View Presented in His Reflections and Maxims, ed. Frederick Ungar, pp. 58-59 (1963).

Ignorance

One part of knowledge consists in being ignorant of such things as are not worthy to be known.

Crates

Ignorance

So oft in theologic wars,

The disputants, I ween,

Rail on in utter ignorance

Of what each other mean,

And prate about an Elephant

Not one of them has seen!

John Godfrey Saxe, "The Blind Men and the Elephant," moral.—The Poetical Works of John Godfrey Saxe, p. 112 (1887).While Saxe said this was a Hindu fable, the story may be found in The Udana, or The Solemn Utterances of the Buddha, chapter 6, section 4, trans. Dawsonne M. Strong, pp. 93-96 (1902).

Ignorance

That there should one man die ignorant who had capacity for knowledge, this I call a tragedy.

Thomas Carlyle

Ignorance

That there should one man die ignorant who had capacity for knowledge, this I call tragedy, were it to happen more than twenty times in the minute, as by some computations it does. The miserable fraction of science which our united mankind, in a wide universe of nescience, has acquired, why is not this, with all diligence, imparted to all?

Thomas Carlyle

Sartor Resartus, III.

Ignorance

The recipe for perpetual ignorance: Be satisfied with your opinions and content with your knowledge.

Elbert Hubbard

Ignorance

To the small part of ignorance that we arrange and classify we give the name knowledge.

Ambrose Bierce

Ignorance

We are accustomed to see men deride what they do not understand, and snarl at the good and beautiful because it lies beyond their sympathies.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832)

Faust (1806)

Ignorance

When you are 'confused', it's when you don't know enough about a thing to be worried.

Will Rogers

Ignorance

Wise men learn more from fools than fools from wise men.

Marcus Porcius Cato

Illiteracy

Tonight at the dinner table, read something out loud to your family. Tomorrow night, let another member read something. A news story. A Bible verse. A Robert Frost poem. A cereal box panel. History. Humor. Anything. Each night a different family member can read a selection. Imagine the wide range of subjects your family will read in 365 days. What a stimulating way to have your children develop good reading habits. We have 23 million illiterate adults in America. We wouldn't have one, if each of them had been served reading as part of their nightly diet. It's non-fattening, but enriching. And it doesn't cost

United Technologies Corporation

Imagination

Every great advance in science has issued from a new audacity of imagination.

John Dewey

Imagination

I doubt that imagination can be suppressed. If you truly eradicated it in a child, he would grow up to be an eggplant.

Ursula K. LeGrim

Imagination

Imagination is as good as many voyages—and how much cheaper.

George William Curtis

Imagination

Imagination is more important than knowledge, for knowledge is limited to all we now know and understand, while imagination embraces the entire world, and all there ever will be to know and understand.

Albert Einstein

Imagination

Imagination rules the world.

Napoleon Bonaparte

Imagination

Were it not for imagination, sir, a man would be as happy in the arms of a chambermaid as a duchess.

Samuel Johnson

Immigrants

Every man has a right to one country. He has a right to love and serve that country and to feel that it is absolutely his country and that he has in it every right possessed by anyone else. It is our duty to require the man of German blood who is an American citizen to give up all allegiance to Germany wholeheartedly and without on his part any mental reservation whatever. If he does this it becomes no less our duty to give him the full rights of an American, including our loyal respect and friendship without on our part any mental reservation whatever. The duties are reciprocal, and from the standpoint of American patriotism one is as important as the other.

Theodore Roosevelt, "Every Man Has a Right to One Country," The Kansas City (Missouri) Star, July 15, 1918, p. 2.

Immigrants

It almost seems that nobody can hate America as much as native Americans. America needs new immigrants to love and cherish it.

Eric Hoffer, "Thoughts of Eric Hoffer, Including: 'Absolute Faith Corrupts Absolutely,'" The New York Times Magazine, April 25, 1971, p. 25.

Immigrants

Remember, remember always that all of us, and you and I especially, are descended from immigrants and revolutionists.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt, remarks before the Daughters of the American Revolution, Washington, D.C., April 21, 1938.—The Public Papers and Addresses of Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1938, p. 259 (1941).FDR is often quoted as having addressed the DAR as "my fellow immigrants." The above words are believed to be the source.

Immigrants

The bosom of America is open to receive not only the Opulent and respectable Stranger, but the oppressed and persecuted of all Nations And Religions; whom we shall wellcome to a participation of all our rights and previleges, if by decency and propriety of conduct they appear to merit the enjoyment.

General George Washington, letter to the members of the Volunteer Association and other Inhabitants of the Kingdom of Ireland who have lately arrived in the City of New York, December 2, 1783.—The Writings of George Washington, ed. John C. Fitzpatrick, vol. 27, p. 254 (1938).

Immortality

As to posterity, I may ask what has it ever done for us?

Thomas Gray

Immortality

Either we have an immortal soul, or we have not. If we have not, we are beasts; the first and wisest of beasts it may be; but still beasts.

Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1772-1834)

Table Talk (23 July 1827)

Immortality

I will have nothing to do with your immortality; we are miserable enough in this life, without the absurdity of speculating upon another….The basis of your religion is injustice; the Son of God, the pure, the immaculate, the innocent, is sacrificed for the guilty.

George Gordon, Lord Byron

Immortality

Jesus said to her [Martha], "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die."

The Bible (John 11:25)

Immortality

Nothing is lasting but change; nothing perpetual but death.

Attributed to Ludwig Borne, in his Denkrede auf Jean Paul. Unverified.

Immortality

One of the proofs of the immortality of the soul is that myriads have believed it—they also believed the world was flat.

Mark Twain

Immortality

Our hope of immortality does not come from any religion, but nearly all religions come from hope.

Robert G. Ingersoll

Immortality

Suns may rise and set; we, when our short day has closed, must sleep on during one perpetual night.

Catullus

Immortality

Surely God would not have created such a being as man…to exist only for a day! No, no, man was made for immortality.

Abraham Lincoln

Immortality

The fame of the brave outlives him; his portion is immortality. What more flattering homage could we pay to the manes of Paul Jones, than to swear on his tomb to live or to die free? It is the vow, it is the watch-word of every Frenchman.

Paul Henri Marron, officiating Protestant clergyman, discourse at the funeral of John Paul Jones, Paris, France, July 20, 1792.—Life and Correspondence of John Paul Jones…,p. 68 (1830).

Immortality

To desire immortality is to desire the eternal perpetuation of a great mistake.

Arthur Schopenhauer

Immortality

Up, sluggard, and waste not life; in the grave will be sleeping enough.

Benjamin Franklin

Immortality

What we have done for ourselves alone dies with us; what we have done for others and the world remains and is immortal.

Attributed to Albert Pike. Unverified.

Immortality

When we are planning for posterity, we ought to remember that virtue is not hereditary.

Thomas Paine

Impeachment

Conditions may, and are not unlikely to arise, some day, when the exercise of the power to impeach and remove the President may be quite as essential to the preservation of our political system as it threatened to become in this instance destructive of that system. Should that day ever come, it is to be hoped that the remedy of impeachment, as established by the Constitution, may be as patriotically, as fearlessly, and as unselfishly applied as it was on this occasion rejected.

Senator Edmund G. Ross, History of the Impeachment of Andrew Johnson. 1868, p. 173 (1896, reprinted 1965).Ross voted against conviction of Johnson for lack of evidence, though he knew it was political suicide.—Dictionary of American Biography, vol. 8, pp. 175-76.

Impeachment

Dr. FRANKLIN mentioned the case of the Prince of Orange [William V], during the late war. An arrangement was made between France and Holland, by which their two fleets were to unite at a certain time and place. The Dutch fleet did not appear. Every body began to wonder at it. At length it was suspected that the stadtholder was at the bottom of the matter. This Suspicion prevailed more and more. Yet, as he could not be impeached, and no regular examination took place, he remained in his office; and strengthening his own party, as the party opposed to him became formidable, he gave birth to the most violent animosities and contentions. Had he been impeachable, a regular and peaceful inquiry would have taken place, and he would, if guilty, have been duly punished,—if innocent, restored to the confidence of the public.

Benjamin Franklin, debates in the Constitutional Convention, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, July 20, 1787.—James Madison, Debates on the Adoption of the Federal Constitution, ed. Jonathan Elliot, vol. 5, p. 342 (1845).

Impeachment

Dr. Franklin was for retaining the clause [on impeachment], as favorable to the executive. History furnishes one example only of a first magistrate being formally brought to public justice. Every body cried out against this as unconstitutional. What was the practice before this, in cases where the chief magistrate rendered himself obnoxious? Why, recourse was had to assassination, in which he was not only deprived of his life, but of the opportunity of vindicating his character. It would be the best way, therefore, to provide in the Constitution for the regular punishment of the executive, where his misconduct should deserve it, and for his honorable acquittal, where he should be unjustly accused.

Benjamin Franklin, debates in the Constitutional Convention, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, July 20, 1787.—James Madison, Debates on the Adoption of the Federal Constitution, ed. Jonathan Elliot, vol. 5, pp. 340-41 (1845).

Impeachment

In the case of impeachments, which are the groans of the people,…and carry with them a greater supposition of guilt than any other accusation, there all the Lords must judge.

John Hatsell, Precedents of Proceedings in the House of Commons, vol. 4, appendix 3, p. 343 (1769).This quotation is used in a footnote by Raoul Berger, Impeachment: The Constitutional Problems, p. 51 (1973).

Impeachment

May I now pass on to this Congress advice which I received recently from a fellow Vermonter—Either impeach him or get off his back.

Senator George Aiken, remarks in the Senate, November 7, 1973, Congressional Record, vol. 119, p. 36086.He was referring to President Richard M. Nixon.

Impeachment

The only honest answer is that an impeachable offense is whatever a majority of the House of Representatives considers [it] to be at a given moment in history; conviction results from whatever offense or offenses two-thirds of the other body considers to be sufficiently serious to require removal of the accused from office.

Representative Gerald R. Ford, remarks in the House, April 15, 1970, Congressional Record, vol. 116, p. 11913.

Impeachment

The power of impeachment is, of course, solely entrusted by the Constitution to the House of Representatives. However, the Executive Branch is clearly obligated, both by precedent and by the necessity of the House of Representatives having all of the facts before reaching its decision, to supply relevant information to the Legislative Branch, as it does in aid of other inquiries being conducted by committees of the Congress, to the extent compatible with the public interest.

President Richard M. Nixon, letter to the Hon. Emanuel Cellar, chairman of the House Committee on the Judiciary, May 19, 1970.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Richard Nixon, 1970, p. 441.This letter concerned H. Res. 920, a resolution of impeachment of Justice William O. Douglas.

Importance

Lack of something to feel important about is almost the greatest tragedy a man may have.

Dr. Arthur E. McRean

Impossible

A likely impossibility is always preferable to an unconvincing posssibility.

Aristotle

Poetics, 24

Improvement

Each day try to find some way in which your work can be improved.

Earl Nightingale

Improvement

For I am haunted night and day

By all the deeds I have not done.

O unattempted loveliness!

O costly valor never won!"

Make the most of yourself, for that

is all there is to you."

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Improvement

Four things never return:

The spoken word,

The sped arrow,

The past life, and

The neglected opportunity

Arabian Proverb

Improvement

Give me work to do,

Give me health,

Give me joy in simple things,

Give me an eye for beauty,

A tongue for truth,

A heart that loves,

A mind that reasons,

A sympathy that understands.

Give me neither malice nor envy,

But a true kindness

And a noble common sense.

At the close of each day

Give me a book

And a friend with whom

I can be silent.

S. M. Frazier

Improvement

Let him that would move the world first move himself.

Socrates

Improvement

Let me be a little kinder,

Let me be a little blinder

To the faults about me;

Let me praise a little more,

Let me be, when I am weary;

Just a little bit more cheery,

Let me serve a little better

Those that I am striving for.

Let me be a little braver

When temptation bids me waver,

Let me strive a little harder

To be all that I should be;

Let me be a little meeker

To the brother that is weaker,

Let me think more of my neighbor

And a little less of me.

Author Unknown

Improvement

On by the sky line, faint and vague, in that Far Country all must know, No laurel crown of fame may wait beyond the sunset's glow; But life has given me the chance to train and serve within the fold, To meet the test—and be prepared for all the endless years may hold.

Grantland Rice

Improvement

People seldom improve when they have no other model than themselves to copy.

Oliver Goldsmith

Improvement

The real fault is to have faults and not try to amend them.

Confucius

Inane

Scarce any Tale was sooner heard than told;

And all who told it, added something new,

And all who heard it, made Enlargements too,

In ev'ry Ear it spread, on ev'ry Tongue it grew.

Alexander Pope, "Temple of Fame," lines 469-72, Poems of Alexander Pope, ed. Geoffrey Tillotson, vol. 2, p. 269 (1940, revised 1954).

Inane

There is a proud undying thought in man,

That bids his soul still upward look

To fame's proud cliff!

Sam Houston, "There is a proud undying thought in man," lines 1-3, The Autobiography of Sam Houston, ed. Donald Day and Harry H. Ullom, p. 56 (1954).

Independence

I do not choose to be a common man. It is my right to be uncommon if I can. I seek opportunity - not security. I do not wish to be a kept citizen, humbled, dulled, by having the State look after me. I want to take the calculated risk; to dream and to build; to fail or succeed. I refuse to barter incentive for a dole. I prefer the challenges of life to the guaranteed existence; the thrill of fulfillment to the state calm of utopia. I will not trade freedom for beneficence, nor my dignity for a handout. I will never cower before any master nor bend to any threat. It is my heritage to stand erect, proud and unafraid; to think and act for myself; enjoy the benefits of my creation, and to face the world boldly and say….This I have done!

Author Unknown

Independence

I place economy among the first and most important virtues, and public debt as the greatest of dangers to be feared….To preserve our independence, we must not let our rulers load us with perpetual debt—we must make our choice between economy and liberty, or profusion and servitude. If we can prevent the government from wasting the labors of the people, under the pretense of caring for them, they will be happy.

Thomas Jefferson

Independence Day

Americans can celebrate the Fourth of July and bring its spirit anywhere in the world…. But it is celebrated with more sentiment and fervor by Americans away from home in France than in any country, for Lafayette and Rochambeau equally with Washington made the Fourth of July possible. French aid, French armies and French gallantry joining with the American army saved liberty for the United States and the world. So Americans can say of the French on the Fourth of July what my old friend, Colonel Somers of South Carolina, said in closing a hot discussion on the merits of religious sects. The Colonel said, "I admit that Catholics can go to Heaven, so can Baptists, Presbyterians, Unitarians and others, but if you wish to go to Heaven as a gentleman with gentlemen, you must be an Episcopalian."

Chauncey M. Depew, speech at the Fourth of July banquet of the American Chamber of Commerce, Paris, France, July 4, 1914.—Depew, Addresses and Literary Contributions on the Threshold of Eighty-Two, p. 103-4 (1916). He served in Congress 1899-1911.

Independence Day

The Second Day of July 1776, will be the most memorable Epocha, in the History of America.—I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated, by succeeding generations, as the great anniversary festival. It ought to be commemorated, as the Day of Deliverance by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shews, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires and illuminations from one end of this Continent to the other from this time forward forever more.

John Adams, letter to Abigail Adams, July 3, 1776.—Adams Family Correspondence, ed. L. H. Butterfield, vol. 2, p. 30 (1963).

Indifference

Nothing is so fatal to religion as indifference, which is, at least, half infidelity.

Washington Irving

Individuality/Individuals

At the heart of that western freedom and democracy is the belief that the individual man, the child of God, is the touchstone of value, and all society, groups, the state, exist for his benefit. Therefore the enlargement of liberty for individual human beings must be the supreme goal and the abiding practice of any western society.

Senator Robert F. Kennedy, "Day of Affirmation," address delivered at the University of Capetown, South Africa, June 6, 1966.—Congressional Record, June 6, 1966, vol. 112, p. 12429.

Individuality/Individuals

But society has now fairly got the better of individuality; and the danger which threatens human nature is not the excess, but the deficiency, of personal impulses and preferences.

John Stuart Mill, On Liberty, ed. David Spitz, chapter 3, pp. 57-58 (1975). Originally published in 1859.

Individuality/Individuals

Could Hamlet have been written by a committee, or the Mona Lisa painted by a club? Could the New Testament have been composed as a conference report? Creative ideas do not spring from groups. They spring from individuals. The divine spark leaps from the finger of God to the finger of Adam, whether it takes ultimate shape in a law of physics or a law of the land, a poem or a policy, a sonata or a mechanical computer.

A. Whitney Griswold, president of Yale, baccalaureate address, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut, June 9, 1957.—Congressional Record, June 11, 1957, vol. 103, Appendix, p. A4545.

Individuality/Individuals

First, is the dangers of futility; the belief there is nothing one man or one woman can do against the enormous array of the world's ills—against misery and ignorance, injustice and violence. Yet many of the world's great movements, of thought and action, have flowed from the work of a single man.

Senator Robert F. Kennedy, "Day of Affirmation," address delivered at the University of Capetown, South Africa, June 6, 1966.—Congressional Record, June 6, 1966, vol. 112, p. 12430.

Individuality/Individuals

I am only one,

But still I am one.

I cannot do everything, But still I can do something; And because I cannot do everything

I will not refuse to do the something that I can do.

Edward Everett Hale, "Lend a Hand."—Masterpieces of Religious Verse, ed. James Dalton Morrison, p. 416 (1948).

Individuality/Individuals

If a man does not keep pace with his companions, perhaps it is because he hears a different drummer. Let him step to the music which he hears, however measured or far away.

Henry David Thoreau, Walden, chapter 18, p. 430 (1966). Originally published in 1854.

Individuality/Individuals

If it were felt that the free development of individuality is one of the leading essentials of well-being; that it is not only a coordinate element with all that is designated by the terms civilisation, instruction, education, culture, but is itself a necessary part and condition of all those things; there would be no danger that liberty should be undervalued.

John Stuart Mill, On Liberty, ed. David Spitz, chapter 3, p. 54 (1975). Originally published in 1859.

Individuality/Individuals

One man with courage makes a majority.

Attributed to Andrew Jackson by Robert F. Kennedy in his Foreward to the Young Readers Memorial Edition of John F. Kennedy's Profiles in Courage, p. xiii (1964). Unverified.Kennedy continued, "That is the effect President Kennedy had on others." A variation of the phrase above, "One man can make a difference and every man should try," was written by Jacqueline Kennedy on a card to accompany an exhibit that travelled around the country when the John F. Kennedy Library in Boston was first opened.

Individuality/Individuals

At bottom every man knows well enough that he is a unique being, only once on this earth; and by no extraordinary chance will such a marvelously picturesque piece of diversity in unity as he is, ever be put together a second time.

Friedrich Nietzsche

Individuality/Individuals

De gustibus non disputandum.

There is no accounting for tastes.

Anonymous Latin Proverb

Individuality/Individuals

Do you imagine that a state can submit and not be overthrown, in which the decisions of law have no power, but are set aside and trampled upon by individuals?

Socrates

Individuality/Individuals

Do you seek Alcides' equal? None is, except himself.

Lucius Annaeus Seneca

Hercules Furens, 1, 1, 84

Individuality/Individuals

Each year new consuls and proconsuls are made; but not every year is a king or a poet born.

Lucius Annaeus Florus

De Qualitate Vitae, fragment 8

Individuality/Individuals

Everyone thinks chiefly of his own, hardly ever of the public interest.

Aristotle

Politics, 1.

Individuality/Individuals

It is an absolute perfection…to know how…to get the very most out of one's own individuality.

Michel de Montaigne

Individuality/Individuals

Millions of minds are in a state of slavery. How shall they escape? Rebel, think of yourself, let others grumble. Dare to be singular—let others sleep.

(Amos) Bronson Alcott

Individuality/Individuals

The human features and countenance, although composed of but some ten parts or little more, are so fashioned that among so many thousands of men there are no two in existence who cannot be distinguished from one another.

Pliny the Elder

Natural History, VII, 8

Individuality/Individuals

There is as much difference between us and ourselves as between us and others.

Michel de Montaigne

Individuality/Individuals

We forfeit three-fourths of ourselves in order to be like other people.

Arthur Schopenhauer

Individuality/Individuals

Whatever you may be sure of, be sure of this—that you are dreadfully like other people.

James Russell Lowell

Industry

If we are industrious, we shall never starve; At the workingman's house hunger looks in but dares not enter.

Benjamin Franklin

Industry

Sloth makes all things difficult; but Industry, all easy; and he that rises late must trot all day and scarce overtake his business at night; while Laziness travels so slowly that Poverty soon overtakes him.

Benjamin Franklin

Influence

A cock has great influence on his own dunghill.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 357

Influence

Early impressions are hard to eradicate from the mind. When once wool has been dyed purple, who can restore it to its previous whiteness?

St. Jerome

Letter 107

Influence

It is a true proverb, that if you live with a lame man you will learn to limp.

Plutarch

Morals. Of the Training of Children

Influence

Let no man imagine that he has no influence. Whoever he may be, and wherever he may be placed, the man who thinks becomes a light and a power.

Henry George (1839-1897)

Social Problems (1884)

Influence

No man or woman of humblest sort can really be strong, gentle, pure and good without somebody being helped and comforted by the very existence of that goodness.

Phillips Brooks

Influence

The partisan, when he is engaged in a dispute, cares nothing about the rights of the question, but is anxious only to convince his hearers of his own assertions.

Plato

Dialogues, Phaedo, 91

Influence

The work an unknown good man has done is like a vein of water flowing hidden underground, secretly making the ground green.

Thomas Carlyle

Essays

Influence

You cannot antagonize and influence at the same time.

J. S. Knox

Ingratitude

Blow, blow, thou winter wind!

Thou art not so unkind

As man's ingratitude.

William Shakespeare

As You Like It, II, vii, 174

Ingratitude

I hate ingratitude more in a man

Than lying, vainness, babbling drunkeness,

Or any taint of vice whose strong corruption

Inhabits our frail blood.

William Shakespeare

Twelfth-Night, III, iv, 390

Ingratitude

Ingratitude, thou marble-hearted fiend,

More hideous, when thou show'st thee in a child,

Than the sea-monster.

William Shakespeare

King Lear, I, iv, 283

Ingratitude

Not to return one good office for another is inhuman; but to return evil for good is diabolical.

Seneca

Initiative

Ours is an age which is proud of machines that think, and suspicious of any man who tries to.

Howard Mumford Jones

Injustice

I know there is a God, and that He hates injustice and slavery. I see the storm coming, and I know that His hand is in it. If he has a place and work for me—and I think He has—I believe I am ready.

Attributed to Abraham Lincoln.—Joseph Gilbert Holland, The Life of Abraham Lincoln, p. 237 (1886). Unverified.

This comment was made in a private conversation with Newton Bateman, superintendent of public instruction for the state of Illinois, a few days before the election of 1860.

During the election of 1960, Senator John F. Kennedy used the same words in a speech to the United Steelworkers of America convention, Atlantic City, New Jersey, September 19, 1960.—Freedom of Communications, final report of the Committee on Commerce, United States Senate, part 1, p. 286 (1961). Senate Rept. 87-994.

As president, he used a variation of these words at the 10th annual presidential prayer breakfast, March 1, 1962.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: John F Kennedy, 1962, p. 176.

Injustice

If you give me six lines written by the hand of the most honest of men, I will find something in them which will hang him.

(Qu'on me donne six lignes ècrites de la main du plus honnête homme, j'y trouverai de quoi le faire pendre.)

Cardinal Richelieu, Mirame.—The Home Book of Quotations, ed. Burton Stevenson, 9th ed., p. 2259 (1964).

However, the other source Stevenson cites, Edouard Fournier's L'Esprit dans l'Histoire, 3d ed., chapter 51, p. 260 (1867), does not accept the traditional attribution and suggests one or another of Richelieu's agents as possible authors.

Adlai Stevenson was reminded "with a shudder" of Richelieu's words, "Give me six sentences written by the most innocent of men and I will hang him with them," in his Call to Greatness, p. 51 (1954).

Injustice

Mankind censure injustice fearing that they may be the victims of it, and not because they shrink from committing it.

Plato

The Republic, I, 344-C

Injustice

Men's indignation, it seems, is more excited by legal wrong than by violent wrong; the first looks like being cheated by an equal, the second like being compelled by a superior.

Thucydides, The History of the Peloponnesian War, trans. Richard Crawley, book 1, p. 50 (1876).

Injustice

There is no calamity which a great nation can invite which equals that which follows a supine submission to wrong and injustice.

Grover Cleveland

1895.

Injustice

Volenti non fit iniuria.

To a person who consents no injustice is done.

Anonymous Latin Legal maxim

Innocence

To dread no eye and to suspect no tongue is the greatest prerogative of innocence; and exemption granted only to invariable virtue.

Johnson

Insincerity

Cant is good to provoke common sense.

Emerson

Insincerity

Cant is itself properly a double-distilled lie, the materia prima of the devil, from which all falsehoods, imbecilities, and abominations body themselves, and from which no true thing can come.

Carlyle

Insincerity

Cant is the voluntary overcharging or prolongation of a real sentiment; hypocrisy is the setting up pretence to a feeling you never had, and have no wish for.

Hazlitt

Insincerity

Of all the cants in this canting world, though the cant of hypocrites may be the worst, the cant of criticism is the most tormenting.

Sterne

Insincerity

The affectation of some late authors to introduce and multiply cant words is the most ruinous corruption in any language.

Swift

Insolence

Insolence is not logic; epithets are the arguments of malice.

Robert G. Ingersoll

Institutions

An institution is the lengthened shadow of one man; as,…the Reformation, of Luther; Quakerism, of Fox; Methodism, of Wesley; Abolition, of Clarkson…and all history resolves itself very easily into the biography of a few stout and earnest persons.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Essays: First Series (1841)

Institutions

In the infancy of societies, the chiefs of the state shape its institutions; later the institutions shape the chiefs of state.

Baron de Montesquieu

Institutions

No restraint, be it ever so little, but is imprisonment.

Sir Edward Coke (1552-1634)

The Institutes (1628)

Institutions

Show me one instance where popular institutions have violated the rights of property, and I will show you a hundred, nay a thousand instances, where the people have been pillaged by the greedy cupidity of a privileged class.

George Bancroft

To the Workingmen of Northampton, Boston Courier, October 22, 1834.

Institutions

The whole history of civilization is strewn with creeds and institutions which were invaluable at first, and deadly afterwards.

George F. Baer

Physics and Politics.

Insult

The only gracious way to accept an insult is to ignore it; if you can't ignore it, top it; if you can't top it, laugh at it; if you can't laugh at it, it's probably deserved.

Russell Lynes

Integrity

An error which has to be corrected is a heavier burden than the truth.

Dag Hammarskjöld

Integrity

If you tell the truth you don't have to remember anything.

Mark Twain

Integrity

No qualities were so likely to make a poor man's fortune as those of probity and integrity.

Benjamin Franklin

Intelligence/Intellectuals

Beard was never the true standard of brains.

Fuller

Intelligence/Intellectuals

Blest the man who possesses a

Keen intelligent mind.

Aristophanes

Frogs, 1482

Intelligence/Intellectuals

From the study of the development of human intelligence, in all directions, and through all times, the discovery arises of a great fundamental law, to which it is necessarily subject, and which has a solid foundation of proof, both in the facts of our organization and in our historical experience. The law is this: that each of our leading conceptions, each branch of our knowledge passes successively through three different theoretical conditions: the Theologica, or fictitious; the Metaphysical, or abstract; and the Scientific, or positive. In other words, the human mind, by its nature, employs in its progress three methods of philosophizing, the character of which is essentially different, and even radically opposed: viz., the theological method, the metaphysical, and the positive. Hence arise three philosophies, or the general systems of conceptions on the aggregate of phenomena, each of which excludes the others.

Auguste Comte (1798-1857)

Cours de philosophie positive (1840-42) [The Positive Philosophy] (Tr. Harriet Martineau, 1853)

Intelligence/Intellectuals

He with whom neither slander that gradually soaks into the mind, nor statements that startle like a wound in the flesh, are successful may be called intelligent indeed.

Confucius

The Confucian Analects, 12:6

Intelligence/Intellectuals

I do not feel obliged to believe that that same God who has endowed us with sense, reason, and intellect has intended us to forego their use.

Galileo Galilei

Intelligence/Intellectuals

It hinders the creative work of the mind if the intellect examines too closely the ideas as they pour in.

Friedrich Schiller

Intelligence/Intellectuals

Skilled in the works of both languages.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Odes, III, VIII, 5

Intelligence/Intellectuals

The controlling intelligence understands its own nature, and what it does, and whereon it works.

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

Meditations, VI, 5

Intelligence/Intellectuals

The decisive events of the world take place in the intellect.

Henri Frederic Amiel

Intelligence/Intellectuals

The power and salvation of a people lie in its intelligentsia, in the intellectuals who think honestly, who feel, and can work.

Anton Chekhov

N. Y. Times, December 30, 1956.

Intelligence/Intellectuals

There are three classes of intellects: one which comprehends by itself; another which appreciates what others comprehend; and a third which neither comprehends by itself nor by the showing of others; the first is the most exceellent, the second is good, the third is useless.

Niccolo Machiavelli

The Prince, ch. 22

Intolerance

The devil loves nothing better than the intolerance of reformers, and dreads nothing so much as their charity and patience.

James Russell Lowell

Invention

O imitators, you slavish herd!

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Epistles, I, xxix, 19

Inventions

A tools is but an extension of a man's hand, and a machine is but a complex tool. And he that invents a machine augments the power of a man and the well-being of mankind.

Henry Ward Beecher

Inventions

As we enjoy great advantages from the inventions of others, we should be glad of an opportunity to serve others by any invention of ours; and this we should do freely and generously.

Benjamin Franklin

Inventions

If a man write a better book, preach a better sermon, or make a better mouse-trap, than his neighbor, tho' he build his house in the woods, the world will make a beaten path to his door.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Inventions

Modern invention has banished the spinning-wheel, and the same law of progress makes the woman of today a different woman from her grandmother.

Susan B. Anthony

Investment

If a little money does not go out, great money will not come in.

Confucius

Isolationism

I have no confidence in the system of isolement [isolation]. It does not answer in social life for individuals, nor in politics for nations. Man is a social animal.

Arthur Wellesley, Duke of Wellington, letter to Thomas Raikes, March 1, 1841.—Private Correspondence of Thomas Raikes, ed. Harriet Raikes, pp. 262-63 (1861).

Isolationism

Perfectionism, no less than isolationism or imperialism or power politics, may obstruct the paths to international peace. Let us not forget that the retreat to isolationism a quarter of a century ago was started not by a direct attack against international cooperation but against the alleged imperfections of the peace.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt, annual message to Congress on the State of the Union, January 6, 1945.—The Public Papers and Addresses of Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1944-45, p. 498 (1950).

Israel

On May 14 I was informed that the Provisional Government of Israel was planning to proclaim a Jewish state at midnight that day, Palestine time, which was when the British mandate came to an end…. I decided to move at once and give American recognition to the new nation. I instructed a member of my staff to communicate my decision to the State Department and prepare it for transmission to Ambassador Austin at the United Nations in New York. About thirty minutes later exactly eleven minutes after Israel had been proclaimed a state, Charlie Boss, my press secretary, handed the press the announcement of the de facto recognition by the United States of the provisional government of Israel.

Harry S. Truman, Memoirs by Harry S. Truman, vol. 2, p. 164 (1956).

Israel

Should a nation which attacks and occupies foreign territory in the face of United Nations disapproval be allowed to impose conditions on its own withdrawal?

President Dwight D. Eisenhower, radio and television broadcast on the situation in the Middle East, Washington, D.C., February 20, 1957.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Dwight D. Eisenhower 1957, p. 151.Israel had invaded Egypt on October 29, 1956, precipitating the Suez Crisis.

Israel

This life as a simple citizen and laborer has its benefits not only for the person himself but perhaps also for his country. After all, there is room for only one Prime Minister, but for those who make the desert bloom there is room for hundreds, thousands and even millions. And the destiny of the state is in the hands of the many rather than of a single individual. There are times when an individual feels he should do those things which only can and should be done by the many.

David Ben-Gurion, "Why I Retired to the Desert," The New York Times Magazine, March 28, 1954, p. 47.

Jealousy

Nor jealousy

Was understood, the injur'd lover's hell.

John Milton

Paradise Lost, V, 449

Jealousy

Jealousy, the jaundice of the soul.

John Dryden

Jesus Christ

"Father forgive them; for they know not what they do."

"Today shalt thou be with me in Paradise."

"My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?"

"Father, into thy hands, I commend my spirit."

"It is finished."

Jesus Christ

The Gospels

Jesus Christ

As to Jesus of Nazareth, my opinion of whom you particularly desire, I think the system of morals and his religion, as he left them to us, the best the world ever saw or is likely to see; but I apprehend it has received various corrupting changes, and I have, with most of the present dissenters in England, some doubts of his divinity.

Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790)

Letters, To Ezra Styles (of Yale), March 9, 1790

Jesus Christ

At the time of the Crucifixion the dogwood had been the size of the oak and other forest trees. So firm and strong was the tree that it was chosen as the timber for the cross. To be used thus for such a cruel purpose greatly distressed the tree, and Jesus, nailed upon it, sensed this, and, in His gentle pity for all sorrow and suffering, said to it: "Because of your regret and pity for My suffering, never again shall the dogwood tree grow large enough to be used as a cross.

"Henceforth it shall be slender and bent and twisted and its blossoms shall be in the form of a cross—two long and two short petals. And in the center of each petal there will be nail prints, brown with rust and stained with red, and in the center of the flower will be a crown of thorns, and all who see it will remember."

Legend of the Dogwood.—Maxwell Droke, The Speaker's Special Occasion Book, pp. 159-60 (1954).

Jesus Christ

For man he seems

In all his lineaments, though in his face

The glimpses of his Fathers glory shine.

John Milton, Paradise Regain'd, lines 91-93, The Works of John Milton, vol. 2, part 2, p. 408 (1931). Originally published in 1671. Satan is speaking of Christ.

Jesus Christ

Here is a man who was born in an obscure village, the child of a peasant woman. He grew up in another obscure village, where He worked in a carpenter shop until He was thirty, and then for three years He was an itinerant preacher. He never wrote a book. He never held an office. He never owned a home. He never had a family. He never went to college. He never put his foot inside a big city. He never traveled two hundred miles from the place where He was born. He never did one of the things that usually accompany greatness. He had no credentials but Himself. He had nothing to do with this world except the naked power of His divine manhood. While still a young man, the tide of public opinion turned against Him. His friends ran away. One of them denied Him. He was turned over to His enemies. He went through the mockery of a trial. He was nailed to a cross between two thieves. His executioners gambled for the only piece of property He had on earth while He was dying—and that was his coat. When he was dead He was taken down and laid in a borrowed grave through the pity of a friend. Nineteen wide centuries have come and gone and today He is the centerpiece of the human race and the leader of the column of progress. I am far within the mark when I say that all the armies that ever marched, and all the navies that ever were built, and all the parliaments that ever sat, all the kings that ever reigned, put together have not affected the life of man upon this earth as powerfully as has that One Solitary Life.

James Allan Francis, One Solitary Life, pp. 1-7 (1963).This miniature book, made up entirely of the text above, was hand set and printed by Doris V. Welsh, a former staff member of the Newberry Library, in an edition of 150 copies. No information in the book is given for the first published source of this essay by James Allan Francis, D.D. (1864-1928), nor could it be found in the essays and sermons by Francis in the collections of his writings in the Library of Congress. Nor was the Newberry Library able to identify the original published source.

As an anonymous work and with some variations in the text, "One Solitary Life" was published in The Irish Echo, December 27, 1969, p. 10; in the Congressional Record, December 23, 1969, vol. 115, p. 13105; and on a variety of Christmas greeting cards in the 1970s and 1980s.

Jesus Christ

I believe Plato and Socrates. I believe in Jesus Christ.

Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1772-1834)

Table Talk (23 July 1827)

Jesus Christ

If Jesus Christ were to come today, people would not even crucify Him. They would ask him to dinner, and hear what he had to say, and make fun of it.

Thomas Carlyle

D. A. Wilson, Caryle at His Zenith.

Jesus Christ

Take, then, your paltry Christ, your gentleman God. We want the carpenter's son, with his saw and hod.

Francis Adams

Quoted by Upton Sinclair, The Cry for Justice.

Jesus Christ

Whosoever on the night of the nativity of the young Lord Jesus, in the great snows, shall fare forth bearing a succulent bone for the lost and lamenting hounds, a wisp of hay for the shivering horse, a cloak of warm raiment for the stranded wayfarer, a bundle of fagots for the twittering crone, a flagon of red wine for him whose marrow withers, a garland of bright red berries for one who has worn chains, a dish of crumbs with a song of love for all huddled birds who thought that song was dead, and divers lush sweetmeats for such babes' faces as peer from lonely windows, to him shall be proffered and returned gifts of such an astonishment as will rival the hues of the peacock and the harmonies of heaven, so that though he live to the great age when man goes stooping and querulous because of the nothing that is left of him, yet shall he walk upright and remembering, as one whose heart shines like a great star in his breast.

Author unknown.

Jesus Christ

Yes, if the life and death of Socrates are those of a wise man, the life and death of Jesus are those of a god.

Jean Jacques Rousseau,

Emile, trans. Allan Bloom,

book 4, p. 308 (1979).

Originally published in 1762.

Jews

All share in the government of the world was denied for centuries to perhaps the ablest, certainly the most tenacious race that had ever lived in it.

James Russell Lowell

Jews

Yes, I am a Jew, and when the ancestors of the right honourable gentlemen were brutal savages in an unknown island, mine were priests in the temple of Solomon.

Benjamin Disraeli (Earl of Beaconsfield) (1804-1881)

Reply, 1835, to a racial slur by Daniel O'Connell

Journals

Since such a repetition is not to be expected, the next thing most like living one's life over again seems to be a recollection of that life, and to make that recollection as durable as possible by putting it down in writing.

Benjamin Franklin

Joy

All who joy would win

Must share it, happiness was born a twin.

George Byron

Joy

It is the Russian's joy to drink; we cannot do without it.

The Primary Chronicle

Annal for the year 987: Vladimir's Christianization of Russia

Joy

Joy is not the same as pleasure or happiness. A wicked and evil man may have pleasure, while any ordinary mortal is capable of being happy. Pleasure generally comes from things, and always through the senses; happiness comes from humans through fellowship. Joy comes from loving God and neighbor. Pleasure is quick and violent, like a flash of lightning. Joy is steady and abiding, like a fixed star. Pleasure depends on external circumstances, such as money, food, travel, etc. Joy is independent of them, for it comes from a good conscience and love of God.

Bishop Fulton J. Sheen, Fulton J. Sheen's Guide to Contentment, p. 120 (196").

Joy

Nothing on earth can smile but man. Gems may flash reflected light; but what is a diamond flash compared with an eye flash? Flowers cannot smile; this is a charm that even they cannot claim. It is the prerogative of man; it is the color which love wears; and cheerfulness and joy—these three.

Henry Ward Beecher

Joy

Occasionally in life there are those moments of unutterable fulfillment which cannot be completely explained by those symbols called words. Their meanings can only be articulated by the inaudible language of the heart.

Martin Luther King, Jr., Nobel lecture, Oslo, Norway, December 11, 1964.—Nobel lecture by The Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., p. 1 (1964).

He was the 1964 recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize.

Joy

There are so many possibilities in life; in attainment and achievement; and so many opportunities of doing good; that it is a glorious thing to live. Surely; then; we ought to make the most of our life. The ideal life is one of joy. The face ought to be shining—shining even in darkness. People say this is a sad world; yes; for those who have eyes only for shadows. He who has songs in his heart hears songs wherever he goes.

J. R. Miller

Joy

Thus, thus, it is joy to pass to the world below.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aeneid, IV, 660

Joy

With coarse rice to eat, with water to drink, and my bended arm for a pillow—I have still joy in the midst of these things. Riches and honors acquired by unrighteousness are to me as a floating cloud.

Confucius

The Confucian Analects, 7:15

Judge/Judgement

Men's judgments are

A parcel of their fortunes, and things outward

Do draw the inward quality after them,

To suffer all alike.

William Shakespeare

Antony and Cleopatra, III, xi, 31

Judge/Judgement

My salad days,

When I was green in judgment.

William Shakespeare

Antony and Cleopatra, I, v, 73

Judge/Judgement

A Last Judgment is necessary because fools flourish. Nations flourish under wise rulers & are depress'd under foolish rulers: it is the same with individuals as nations: works of art can only be produc'd in perfection where the man is either in affluence or is above the care of it.

William Blake

From Blake's MS. Book concerning his picture of The Last Judgment.

Judge/Judgement

A Last Judgment is not for the purpose of making bad men better, but for the purpose of hindering them from oppressing the good with poverty and pain.

William Blake

From Blake's MS. Book concerning his picture of The Last Judgment.

Judge/Judgement

Before I judge my neighbor, let me walk a mile in his moccasins.

Sioux Proverb

Judge/Judgement

By a small sample we may judge of the whole piece.

Miguel de Cervantes

Don Quixote, pt. I, I, 4, 25

Judge/Judgement

Every advantage in the past is judged in the light of the final issue.

Demosthenes

First Olynthiac, 11

Judge/Judgement

Men have a touchstone whereby to trie gold, but gold is the touch-stone whereby to trie man.

Thomas Fuller (1608-1661)

The Holy State and the Profane State (1642)

Ch. v, "The Good Judge"

Judge/Judgement

No one should be judge in his own case.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 545

Judge/Judgement

None of the defendants could be at all connected with the case. Wholesale bribery and intimidation of witnesses were resorted to. The defendants were not proved guilty of the crime charged under the indictment.

John Peter Altgeld

Governor's pardon for Fielden, Neebe and Schwab, three of the "Chicago

Anarchists," June 26, 1883.

Judge/Judgement

Nor is the people's judgement always true:

The most may err as grossly as the few.

John Dryden

Absalom and Achitophel, I, 781

Judge/Judgement

Pardon one offense, and you encourage the commission of many.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 750

Judge/Judgement

Remember particularly that you cannot be a judge of anyone. For no one can judge a criminal, until he recognizes that he is just such a criminal as the man standing before him, and that he perhaps is more than all men to blame for the crime. When he understands that, he will be able to be a judge.

Love a man even in his sin for that love is a likeness of the divine love, and is the summit of love on earth.

Fyodor Dostoyevski (1821-1881)

The Brothers Karamazov (1880)

Judge/Judgement

Testis unus testis nullus.

A single witness is no witness.

Anonymous Latin Legal maxim

Judge/Judgement

The charges we bring against others often come home to ourselves; we inveigh against faults which are as much ours as theirs; and so our eloquence ends by telling against ourselves.

St. Jerome

Letter 125

Judge/Judgement

The line, often adopted by strong men in controversy, of justifying the means by the end.

St. Jerome

Letter, 48

Judge/Judgement

The upright judge condemns the crime but does not hate the criminal.

Seneca

Judge/Judgement

Those fellows did not have a fair trial and I did what I thought was right.

John Peter Altgeld

(referring to the Anarchists.)

Judge/Judgement

Where there is hatred in judgment, judgment is blind.

Desiderius Erasmus (1465-1536)

Colloquies

Judge/Judgment

A smattering of philosophy had liberated his [Nero's] intellect without maturing his judgement.

Tacitus

Judge/Judgment

Better bend than break.

Scottish Proverb

Judge/Judgment

But let judgment run down as waters, and righteousness as a mighty stream.

The Bible, Amos 5:24.

Judge/Judgment

Compromise makes a good umbrella but a poor roof; it is a temporary expedient.

James Russell Lowell

Judge/Judgment

Give your decisions, never your reasons; your decisions may be right, your reasons are sure to be wrong.

Earl of Mansfield

Judge/Judgment

Here is the beginning of philosophy: a recognition of the conflicts between men, a search for their cause, a condemnation of mere opinion…and the discovery of a standard of judgment.

Epictetus

Judge/Judgment

I don't like you, Sabidius, I can't say why; But I can say this: I don't like you, Sabidius.

Martial [Marcus Valerius Martialis]

Epigrams, I, 32

Judge/Judgment

If we could first know where we are, and whither we are tending, we could then better judge what to do, and how to do it.

Abraham Lincoln, speech delivered at the close of the Republican state convention, which named him the candidate for the United States Senate, Springfield, Illinois, June 16, 1858.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Boy P Basler vol. 2, p. 461 (1953).

Judge/Judgment

Judge a tree from its fruit; not from the leaves.

Euripides

Judge/Judgment

Let us train our minds to desire what the situation demands.

Seneca

Judge/Judgment

Nature has but one judgment on wrong conduct—if you can call that a judgment which seemingly has no reference to conduct as such—the judgment of death.

Oliver Wendell Holmes, justice of the supreme court of Massachusetts, address at the dedication of the Northwestern University Law School Building, Chicago, Illinois, October 20, 1902.—Holmes, Collected Legal Papers, p. 272 (1937).

Judge/Judgment

One cool judgment is worth a thousand hasty counsels. The thing to be supplied is light, not heat.

President Woodrow Wilson, address on preparedness, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, January 29, 1916.—The Papers of Woodrow Wilson, ed. Arthur S. Link, vol. 36, p. 33 (1981).

Judge/Judgment

Our duty is to believe that for which we have sufficient evidence, and to suspend our judgment when we have not.

John Lubbock

Judge/Judgment

The firmness with which the people have withstood the late abuses of the press, the discernment they have manifested between truth and falsehood, show that they may safely be trusted to hear everything true and false, and to form a correct judgment between them.

President Thomas Jefferson, letter to Judge John Tyler June 28, 1804.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Andrew A. Lipscomb, vol. 11, p. 33 (1904).

Judge/Judgment

The lack of objectivity, as far as foreign nations are concerned, is notorious. From one day to another, another nation is made out to be utterly depraved and fiendish, while one's own nation stands for everything that is good and noble. Every action of the enemy is judged by one standard—every action of oneself by another. Even good deeds by the enemy are considered a sign of particular devilishness, meant to deceive us and the world, while our bad deeds are necessary and justified by our noble goals which they serve.

Erich Fromm, The Art of Loving, pp. 100-101 (1956).

Judges

As, for the safety of society, we commit honest maniacs to Bedlam, so judges should be withdrawn from their bench, whose erroneous biases are leading us to dissolution. It may indeed injure them in fame or in fortune; but it saves the republic, which is the first and supreme law.

Thomas Jefferson, "Autobiography," The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Paul L. Ford, vol. 1, p. 114 (1892).

Judges

Biggest damfool mistake I ever made.

Dwight D. Eisenhower, referring to his appointment of Earl Warren as chief justice of the Supreme Court.—Fred Rodell, "The Complexities of Mr. Justice Fortas," The New York Times Magazine, July 28, 1968, p. 12.William B. Ewald, Jr., research assistant for Eisenhower's memoirs, says in Eisenhower the President, p. 95 (1981), "I myself once, and once only, heard him say in Gettysburg in 1961, 'The two worst appointments I ever made came out of recommendations from the Justice Department: that fellow who headed the Antitrust Division, Bicks, and Earl Warren.'"

Judges

In the public interest, therefore, it is better that we lose the services of the exceptions who are good Judges after they are seventy and avoid the presence on the Bench of men who are not able to keep up with the work, or to perform it satisfactorily.

William Howard Taft, Popular Government: Its Essence, Its Permanence and Its Perils, chapter 7, p. 159 (1913).

Judges

Jefferson was against any needless official apparel, but if the gown was to carry, he said: "For Heaven's sake discard the monstrous wig which makes the English judges look like rats peeping through bunches of oakum."

Thomas Jefferson, commenting on judges' apparel.—Benjamin Harrison, The Constitution and Administration of the United States of America, p. 320 (1897).

Judges

Judges, like people, may be divided roughly into four classes: judges with neither head nor heart—they are to be avoided at all costs; judges with head but no heart—they are almost as bad; then judges with heart but no head—risky but better than the first two; and finally, those rare judges who possess both head and a heart—thanks to blind luck, that's our judge.

Robert Traver, Anatomy of a Murder, chapter 17, pp. 313-14 (1958).

Judges

When the spotless ermine of the judicial robe fell on John Jay, it touched nothing less spotless than itself.

Senator Daniel Webster, at a public dinner New York City, March 10, 1831.—The Writings and Speeches of Daniel Webster, vol. 2, p. 51 (1903).The dinner given in Webster's honor by the citizens of New York, was to thank him for his defense of the Constitution in the previous session of Congress. John Jay was the first chief justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.

Judges

When twenty years ago a vague terror went over the earth and the word socialism began to be heard, I thought and still think that fear was translated into doctrines that had no proper place in the Constitution or the common law. Judges are apt to be naif, simpleminded men, and they need something of Mephistopheles. We too need education in the obvious—to learn to transcend our own convictions and to leave room for much that we hold dear to be done away with short of revolution by the orderly change of law.

Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, speech at Harvard Law School Association of New York, New York City, February 15, 1913.—Speeches by Oliver Wendell Holmes, p. 101 (1934).

Judge/Judgement

Even God doesn't plan to judge a man til the end of his days, why should you and I?

Author Unknown

Judge/Judgement

We judge ourselves by what we feel capable of doing, while others judge us by what we have already done.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Judiciary

At the establishment of our constitutions, the judiciary bodies were supposed to be the most helpless and harmless members of the government. Experience, however soon showed in what way they were to become the most dangerous; that the insufficiency of the means provided for their removal gave them a freehold and irresponsibility in office; that their decisions, seeming to concern individual suitors only, pass silent and unheeded by the public at large; that these decisions, nevertheless, become law by precedent, sapping, by little and little, the foundations of the constitution, and working its change by construction, before any one has perceived that that invisible and helpless worm has been busily employed in consuming its substance. In truth, man is not made to be trusted for life, if secured against all liability to account.

Thomas Jefferson,

letter to Monsieur A. Coray, October 31, 1823.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Andrew A. Lipscomb, vol. 15, pp. 486-87 (1904).

Judiciary

I do not think the United States would come to an end if we lost our power to declare an Act of Congress void. I do think the Union would be imperiled if we could not make that declaration as to the laws of the several States.

Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, address to the Harvard Law School Association of New York, New York City, February 15, 1913.—Speeches by Oliver Wendell Holmes, p. 102 (1934).

Judiciary

If the policy of the government, upon vital questions affecting the whole people, is to be irrevocably fixed by decisions of the Supreme Court,…the people will have ceased, to be their own rulers, having, to that extent, practically resigned their government into the hands of that eminent tribunal. Nor is there, in this view, any assault upon the court, or the judges. It is a duty, from which they may not shrink, to decide cases properly brought before them; and it is no fault of theirs, if others seek to turn their decisions to political purposes.

President Abraham Lincoln, first inaugural address (final text), March 4, 1861.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Boy P. Basler, vol. 4, p. 268 (1953).

Judiciary

John Marshall has made his decision: now let him enforce it!

President Andrew Jackson.—Horace Greeley, The American Conflict, A History of the Great Rebellion…, vol. 1, p. 106 (1864), noting that "I am indebted for this fact to the late Governor George N. Briggs, of Massachusetts, who was in Washington as a member of Congress when the decision was rendered" (footnote 27, p. 106).Chief Justice Marshall had read the Supreme Court's opinion in a dispute between the state of Georgia and two missionaries, who had been convicted of and imprisoned for living among the Cherokee Indians. The Supreme Court's decision was in favor of the missionaries. "The attorneys for the missionaries sought to have this judgment enforced, but could not. General Jackson was President, and would do nothing of the sort…. So the missionaries languished years in prison" (p. 106).

Judiciary

The germ of dissolution of our federal government is in the constitution of the federal judiciary; an irresponsible body, (for impeachment is scarcely a scare-crow,) working like gravity by night and by day, gaining a little today and a little tomorrow, and advancing its noiseless step like a thief, over the field of jurisdiction, until all shall be usurped from the States, and the government of all be consolidated into one.

Thomas Jefferson, letter to Charles Hammond, August 18, 1821.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Andrew A. Lipscomb, vol. 15, pp. 331-32 (1903).

Judiciary

The great object of my fear is the federal judiciary. That body, like gravity, ever acting, with noiseless foot, and unalarming advance, gaining ground step by step, and holding what it gains, is ingulfing insidiously the special governments into the jaws of that which feeds them.

Thomas Jefferson, letter to Judge Spencer Roane, March 9, 1821.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Andrew A. Lipscomb, vol. 15, p. 326 (1903).

Judiciary

The judiciary of the United States is the subtle corps of sappers and miners constantly working under ground to undermine the foundations of our confederated fabric.

A judiciary independent of a king or executive alone, is a good thing; but independence of the will of the nation is a solecism, at least in a republican government.

Thomas Jefferson, letter to Thomas Ritchie, December 25, 1820.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Paul L. Ford, vol. 10, pp. 170-71 (1899).A similar statement is made in Jefferson's "Autobiography," Writings, vol. 1, pp. 112-13 (1892).

Jury

A fox should not be on the jury of a goose's trial.

Thomas Fuller

Jury

A jury too often has at least one member who is more ready to hang the panel than the traitor.

Abraham Lincoln

Justice/Injustice

"No, no!" said the Queen. "Sentence first—verdict afterwards."

Lewis Carroll (Charles L. Dodgson), Alice in Wonderland, chapter 12.—Logical Nonsense: The Works of Lewis Carroll, ed. Philip C. Blackburn and Lionel White, p. 177 (1934). First published in 1865.

Justice/Injustice

"There's the King's Messenger. He's in prison now, being punished: and the trial doesn't begin until next Wednesday: and of course the crime comes last of all."

"Suppose he never commits the crime?" said Alice.

"That would be all the better, wouldn't it?" the Queen said.

Lewis Carroll (Charles L. Dodgson), Through the Looking-Glass, chapter 5.—Logical Nonsense: The Works of Lewis Carroll, ed. Philip C. Blackburn and Lionel White, p. 195 (1934). First published in 1872.

Justice/Injustice

But Justice, though her dome [doom] she doe prolong,

Yet at the last she will her owne cause right.

Edmund Spenser,

The Faerie Queene, book 5,

canto 11, stanza 1, p. 434 (1903).

Justice/Injustice

Consequently, if the republic is the weal of the people, and there is no people if it be not associated by a common acknowledgment of right, and if there is no right where there is no justice, then most certainly it follows that there is no republic where there is no justice.

St. Augustine, The City of God, book 19, chapter 21.—The Works of Aurelius Augustine, trans. Marcus Dods, vol. 2, p. 331 (1871). De Civitate Dei was written 413-426.

Justice/Injustice

Correct yourselves on the same principle that you correct others; and excuse others on the same principle that you excuse yourselves.

Wisdom of the Chinese

Justice/Injustice

Dear son, if you come to reign do that which befits a king, that is, be so just as to deviate in nothing from justice, whatever may befall you. If a poor man goes to law with one who is rich, support the poor rather than the rich man until you know the truth, and when the truth is known, do that which is just.

Louis IX, king of France.—Louis Gazagne, The Saint on Horseback: A Story of St. Louis IX, King of France, p. 73 (1953).Another translation: "To keep right and justice be thou righteous and steady with thy people, without turning to the right hand or to the left, but straight forward, and uphold the poor man's suit until the truth be made manifest."—Jean de Joinville, The History of St. Louis, ed. Natalis de Wailly, trans. Joan Evans, book 2, chapter 145, p. 225 (1938). In some translations, this is paragraph 747.

Justice/Injustice

He who decides a case without hearing the other side, though he decide justly, cannot be considered just.

Seneca

Justice/Injustice

If there has been any crime, it must be prosecuted. If there has been any property of the United States illegally transferred or leased, it must be recovered…. I propose to employ special counsel of high rank drawn from both political parties to bring such actions for the enforcement of the law. Counsel will be instructed to prosecute these cases in the courts so that if there is any guilt it will be punished; if there is any civil liability it will be enforced; if there is any fraud it will be revealed; and if there are any contracts which are illegal they will be canceled. Every law will be enforced. And every right of the people and the Government will be protected.

President Calvin Coolidge, statement on the Teapot Dome scandal.—The New York Times, January 27, 1924, p. 1.Quoted by Senator Edward Martin, address to the Mifflin County Republican Committee, Lewistown, Pennsylvania, January 25, 1952.—Congressional Record, January 28, 1952, vol. 98, Appendix, p. A400.

Justice/Injustice

In enacting laws, rigor is indispensable; in executing them, mercy.

Mencius

Justice/Injustice

Just are the ways of God,

And justifiable to men;

Unless there be who think no God at all.

John Milton

Samson Agonistes, 293

Justice/Injustice

Justice being taken away, then, what are kingdoms but great robberies? For what are robberies themselves, but little kingdoms.

St. Augustine

The City of God.

Justice/Injustice

Justice consists in the compliance with custom in all matters of difference between men…. this accords with the definition of the Roman law.

James Coolidge Carter

Law: Its Origin, Growth and Function.

Justice/Injustice

Justice delayed is justice denied.

Attributed to William E. Gladstone.—Laurence J. Peter Peter's Quotations, p. 276 (1977). Unverified.

Justice/Injustice

Justice in the life and conduct of the State is possible only as first it resides in the hearts and souls of the citizens.

Author unknown. Inscription over the 10th Street entrance of the U.S. Department of Justice Building, Washington, D.C. This has been attributed to Plato, but is unverified.

Justice/Injustice

Justice is a temporary thing that must at last come to an end; but the conscience is eternal and will never die.

Martin Luther

Justice/Injustice

Justice is itself the great standing policy of civil society; and any eminent departure from it, under any circumstances, lies under the suspicion of being no policy at all.

Edmund Burke, "Reflections on the Revolution in France," 1790, The Works of the Right Honorable Edmund Burke, vol. 3, pp. 438-39 (1899).

Justice/Injustice

Justice without strength is helpless, strength without justice is tyrannical.. Unable to make what is just strong, we have made what is strong just.

Blaise Pascal

Justice/Injustice

Justice, Sir, is the great interest of man on earth.

Daniel Webster

Justice/Injustice

Justice, voiceless, unseen, seeth thee when thou sleepest and when thou goest forth and when thou liest down. Continually doth she attend thee, now aslant thy course, now at a later time.

Aeschylus (?), "Fragments," fragment 253.—Aeschylus, trans. Herbert W Smyth, vol. 2, p. 513 (1926). These lines are from a section of doubtful or spurious fragments.

Justice/Injustice

Let justice be done, though the world perish.

Ferdinand I (1503-1564), Holy Roman Emperor

Justice/Injustice

Let me make one more remark suggested by this trial and by others. There is no accepted test of civilization. It is not wealth, or the degree of comfort, or the average duration of life, or the increase of knowledge. All such tests would be disputed. In default of any other measure, may it not be suggested that as good a measure as any is the degree to which justice is carried out, the degree to which men are sensitive as to wrong-doing and desirous to right it? If that be the test, a trial such as that of Servetus is a trial of the people among whom it takes place, and his condemnation is theirs also.

Sir John Macdonell, Historical Trials, chapter 7, p. 148 (1927).Miguel Serveto, known as Michael Servetus, was imprisoned in Geneva at John Calvin's request and burned at the stake as a heretic in 1553.

Justice/Injustice

Man is unjust, God is just, and finally justice prevails.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Justice/Injustice

Men are always invoking justice; yet it is justice which should make them tremble.

Madame Swetchine

Justice/Injustice

No freeman shall be taken, or imprisoned, or outlawed, or exiled, or in any way harmed, nor will we go upon him nor will we send upon him, except by the legal judgment of his peers or by the law of the land.

Magna Carta

Clause 39

Justice/Injustice

Nor will that day dawn at a human nod,

When, bursting through the network super-

posed By selfish occupation—plot and plan,

Lust, avarice, envy-liberated man,

All difference with his fellow mortal closed,

Shall be left standing face to face with God.

Matthew Arnold

To A Republican Friend, 1848.

Justice/Injustice

Of all the officers of the Government, those of the Department of Justice should be kept most free from any suspicion of improper action on partisan or factional grounds, so that there shall be gradually a growth, even though a slow growth, in the knowledge that the Federal courts and the representatives of the Federal Department of Justice insist on meting out even-handed justice to all.

President Theodore Roosevelt, letter to Attorney General William H. Moody, August 9, 1904.—Homer S. Cummings, Federal Justice, p. 500 (1937).

Justice/Injustice

Oh Justice, when expelled from other habitations, make this thy dwelling place.

William Jewell, inscription over the door of the Boone County, Missouri, Court House.—North Todd Gentry, The Bench and Bar of Boone County, Missouri, pp. 81-82 (1916).Lawyers trying cases in the court house were known to make "eloquent and effective" references to the motto.—Walter Ridgway, "Boone County's Justice Motto," Missouri Historical Review, October 1926, pp. 114-16.

Justice/Injustice

Out of the frying pan into the fire.

Quintus Septimius Tertullian

De Carne Christi, 6

Justice/Injustice

Pity and forbearance should characterize all acts of justice.

Benjamin Franklin

Justice/Injustice

Recompense injury with justice, and recompense kindness with kindness.

Confucius

Justice/Injustice

Salvation for a race, nation, or class must come from within. Freedom is never granted; it is won. Justice is never given; it is exacted. Freedom and justice must be struggled for by the oppressed of all lands and races, and the struggle must be continuous, for freedom is never a final fact, but a continuing evolving process to higher and higher levels of human, social, economic, political and religious relationships.

A. Philip Randolph.—Jervis Anderson, A. Philip Randolph, a Biographical Portrait, epigraph, p. vii (1972).

Justice/Injustice

Sir, I say that justice is truth in action.

Benjamin Disraeli, "Agricultural Distress," speech in the House of Commons, February 11, 1851.—Selected Speeches of the Late Right Hononrable Earl of Beaconsfield, ed. T. E. Kebbel, vol. 1, p. 321 (1882).

Justice/Injustice

That it is better 100 guilty Persons should escape than that one innocent Person should suffer, is a Maxim that has been long and generally approved.

Benjamin Franklin, letter to Benjamin Vaughan, March 14, 1785.—The Writings of Benjamin Franklin, ed. Albert H. Smyth, vol. 9, p. 293 (1906).He was echoing Voltaire, "that generous Maxim, that 'tis much more Prudence to acquit two Persons, tho' actually guilty, than to pass Sentence of Condemnation on one that is virtuous and innocent. "—Zadig, chapter 6, p. 53 (1749, reprinted 1974).

Sir William Blackstone, in his Commentaries on the Laws of England, 9th ed., book 4, chapter 27, p. 358 (1783, reprinted 1978), says, "For the law holds, that it is better that ten guilty persons escape, than that one innocent suffer."

Justice/Injustice

That which is unjust can really profit no one; that which is just can really harm no one.

Henry George

Justice/Injustice

The love of justice in most men is simply the fear of suffering injustice.

Francois Rochefoucauld

Justice/Injustice

There is but one blasphemy, and that is injustice.

Robert G. Ingersoll

Justice/Injustice

There is no grievance that is a fit object of redress by mob law.

Abraham Lincoln

Justice/Injustice

Therefore the sight that is granted to your world penetrates within the Eternal Justice as the eye into the sea; for though from the shore it sees the bottom, in the open sea it does not, and yet the bottom is there but the depth conceals it.

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy. Paradiso, canto XIX, 73

Justice/Injustice

They have a Right to censure, that have a Heart to help: The rest is Cruelty, not Justice.

William Penn, Some Fruits of Solitude in Reflections & Maxims, no. 46, p. 15 (1903, reprinted 1976).

Justice/Injustice

This Court acknowledges, as I suppose, the validity of the Law of God….I endeavored to act up to that instruction. I say, I am yet too young to understand that God is any respecter of persons. I believe that to have interfered as I have done, as I have always freely admitted I have done, in behalf of His despised poor, was not wrong, but right. Now, if it is deemed necessary that I should forfeit my life for the furtherance of the ends of justice, and mingle my blood further with the blood of my children, and with the blood of millions in this slave country whose rights are disregarded by wicked, cruel, and unjust enactments, I submit: so let it be done!

John Brown

Last speech in court, November 2, 1859, N. Y. Herald, November 3.

Justice/Injustice

To none will we sell, to none deny or delay, right or justice.

Magna Carta

Clause 40

Justice/Injustice

We said that a single injustice, a single crime, a single illegality, particularly if it is officially recorded, confirmed, a single wrong to humanity, a single wrong to justice and to right, particularly if it is universally, legally, nationally, commodiously accepted, that a single crime shatters and is sufficient to shatter the whole social pact, the whole social contract, that a single legal crime, a single dishonorable act will bring about the loss of one's honor, the dishonor of a whole people. It is a touch of gangrene that corrupts the entire body.

Charles-Pierre Peguy, in reference to the Dreyfus trial, Men and Saints, trans. Anne and Julian Green, p. 11 (1944).

Justice/Injustice

Whenever a separation is made between liberty and justice, neither, in my opinion, is safe.

Edmund Burke

Justice/Injustice

God would prefer to suffer the government to exist no matter how evil, rather than allow the rabble to riot, no matter how justified they are in doing so.

Martin Luther

Justice/Injustice

How invincible is justice if it be well spoken.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

Justice/Injustice

I think the first duty of society is justice.

Alexander Hamilton

Justice/Injustice

Justice delayed is justice denied.

William Ewart Gladstone

Justice/Injustice

Justice discards party, friendship, kindred, and is always, therefore, represented as blind.

Joseph Addison

Justice/Injustice

Justice is my being allowed to do whatever I like. Injustice is whatever prevents my doing so.

Samuel Johnson

Justice/Injustice

Let justice be done, though the heavens fall!

Earl of Mansfield

Justice/Injustice

Liberty! Liberty! In all things let us have justice, and then we shall have enough liberty.

Joseph Joubert

Justice/Injustice

National injustice is the surest road to national downfall.

William Ewart Gladstone

Justice/Injustice

The laboring people found the prisons always open to receive them, but the courts of justice were practically closed to them.

John Peter Altgeld

Justice/Injustice

The sword of the law should never fall but on those whose guilt is so apparent as to be pronounced by their friends as well as foes.

Thomas Jefferson

Kentucky

The song birds are the sweetest

In Kentucky;

The thoroughbreds are fleetest

In Kentucky;

Mountains tower proudest,

Thunder peals the loudest,

The landscape is the grandest—

And politics—the damnedest

In Kentucky

James H. Mulligan, "In Kentucky," stanza 7.—John W. Townsend, "In Kentucky" and its Author "Jim" Mulligan, pp. 8-9 (1935).

Kindness

A spark of kindness starts a fire of love.

Author Unknown

Kindness

Act with kindness, but do not exact gratitude.

Confucius

Kindness

An eye can threaten like a loaded and levelled gun, or can insult like hissing or kicking; or, in its altered mood, by beams of kindness, it can make the heart dance with joy.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Kindness

Any good we can do, or any kindness that we can show to any fellow creature, let us do it now for we shall not pass this way again.

Stephen Shellet

Kindness

Better do a kindness near home than go far to burn incense. To save one life is better than to build a seven story pagoda.

Wisdom of the Chinese

Kindness

Good words are like a string of pearls.

Confucius

Kindness

He was so benevolent, so merciful a man that he would have held an umbrella over a duck in a shower of rain.

Douglas Jerrold

Kindness

If a man can take any pleasure in recalling the thought of kindnesses done.

Gaius Valerius Catullus

Carmina, LXXVI, 1

Kindness

It is a good and safe rule to sojourn in every place as if you meant to spend your life there; never omitting an opportunity of doing a kindness; or speaking a true word; or making a friend.

John Ruskin

Kindness

Kindly words do not enter so deeply into men as a reputation for kindness.

Mencius

Book VII, 1:14.1

Kindness

Kindness has more power than compulsion.

Author Unknown

Kindness

Kindness in words creates confidence. Kindness in thinking creates profoundness. Kindness in giving creates love.

Lao Tzu

Kindness

Kindness is greater than law.

Confucius

Kindness

Kindness is the kingpin of success in life, it is the prime factor in overcoming friction and making the human machinery run smoothly.

Andrew Chapman

Kindness

Let no one be willing to speak ill of the absent.

Sextus Aurelius Propertius

Elegies, II, xix, 32

Kindness

Life is too short for words that hurt; For subtle thrusts and for phrases curt; For motives unkind and sharp retort—For any of these—life is too short.

Lucile Veneklasen

Kindness

No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.

Aesop

Kindness

The best parts of a good man's life are his little, nameless, unremembered acts of kindness and love.

William Wordsworth

Kindness

The fine and noble way to destroy a foe, is not to kill him: with kindness you may so change him that he shall cease to be so: then he's slain.

Aleyn

Kindness

This is a way to kill a wife with kindness.

William Shakespeare

The Taming of the Shrew, IV, i, 211

Kindness

What wisdom can you find that is greater than kindness.

Jean Jacques Rousseau

Kindness

Whenever there is a human being there is an opportunity for kindness

Author Unknown

Kindness

Wise sayings often fall on barren ground; but a kind word is never thrown away.

Sir Arthur Helps

Kings

'Tis so much to be a king, that he only is so by being so. The strange luster that surrounds him conceals and shrouds him from us; our sight is there broken and dissipated, being stopped and filled by the prevailing light.

Michel Eyquem de Montaigne

Essays, III, 7

Kings

A king is a thing men have made for their own sakes, for quietness' sake. Just as in a family one man is appointed to buy the meat.

John Selden

Table Talk. Of a King

Kings

A multitude of rulers is not a good thing. Let there be one ruler, one king.

Homer

The Iliad, II, 204

Kings

An emperor is subject to no one but God and Justice.

Frederick I [Barbarossa]

From Zincgref, Apophthegmata, bk. I

Kings

And with the guts of the last priest

Let us strangle the last king!

Denis Diderot (1713-1784)

Dithyrambe Sur La FêTe Des Rois (C. 1780)

Kings

Except for God, the King's our only lord.

Lope de Vega

Fuente Ovejune, act I, l. 1701

Kings

His hands would plait the priest's guts, if he had no rope, to strangle kings.

(Et ses mains ourdiraient les entrailles du prêtre, Au dèfaut d'un cordon pour ètrangler les rois.)

Denis Diderot, 'Les Eleutheromanes,' Poesies Diverses, p. 16 (1875).Another version frequently cited is: "Let us strangle the last king with the guts of the last priest." (Et des boyaux du dernier pretre / Serrons le cou du dernier roi.)—Attributed to Diderot by Jean-Francois de La Harpe, Cours de Litterature Ancienne et Moderne, vol. 3, book 4, chapter 3, p. 415 (1840).

Kings

Kings will be tyrants from policy, when subjects are rebels from principle.

Edmund Burke

Reflections on the Revolution in France, 1790.

Kings

Proud is the spirit of Zeus-fostered kings—their honor comes from Zeus, and Zeus, god of council, loves them.

Homer

The Iliad, II, 196

Kings

That the king can do no wrong is a necessary and fundamental principle of the English constitution.

Sir William Blackstone

Commentaries on the Laws of England, 1765.

Kings

The king reigns, but does not govern.

Jan Zamoyski

Speech in the Polish Parliament, referring to King Sigismund III

Kings

The royal authority is absolute. In order to render this term odious and insupportable, some people try to confuse absolute with arbitrary government. But there is nothing more different, as we shall see when we speak of justice.

The prince is accountable to no one for what he orders…. we must obey princes as justice itself, without which there would be no order nor purpose in human affairs. They are gods, and participate in the divine independence….

Jacques Benigne Bossuet

Oeuvres de Bossuet, translated by Franklin Le Van Baumer, in his Main Currents of Western Thought.

Kings

This hath not offended the king.

Sir Thomas More

As he drew his beard aside upon placing his head on the block.

From Bacon, Apothegms, no. 22

Kings

What, nephew, said the king, is the wind in that door?

Sir Thomas Malory

Le Morte d'Arthur, VII, 34

Knowledge

"The Origin of Species introduces a mode of thinking that in the end was bound to transform the logic of knowledge, and hence the treatment of morals, politics, and religion."

John Dewey

Influence of Darwin on Philosophy, 1910

Knowledge

A little knowledge is a dangerous thing. It is not death man should fear but a little living.

Marcus Aurelius

Knowledge

A man must get a thing before he can forget it.

Oliver Wendell Holmes

Knowledge

A maxim consists of a minimum of sound and a maximum of sense.

Mark Twain

Knowledge

A person who has had a bull by the tail once has learned 60 or 70 times as much as one hasn't.

Mark Twain

Knowledge

A place is yours when you know where all the roads go.

Richard Realf

Knowledge

A popular Government, without popular information, or the means of acquiring it, is but a Prologue to a Farce or a Tragedy; or perhaps both. Knowledge will forever govern ignorance: And a people who mean to be their own Governors, must arm themselves with the power which knowledge gives.

James Madison, letter to W. T. Barry, August 4, 1822.—The Writings of James Madison, ed. Gaillard Hunt, vol. 9, p. 103 (1910).

These words, using the older spelling "Governours," are inscribed to the left of the main entrance, Library of Congress James Madison Memorial Building.

Knowledge

A specialist is one who knows everything about something and nothing about anything else.

Ambrose Bierce

Knowledge

All good intellects have repeated since Bacon's time, that there can be no real knowledge but that which is based on observed facts.

Auguste Comte (1798-1857)

Cours de philosophie positive (1840-42) [The Positive Philosophy] (Tr. Harriet Martineau, 1853)

Knowledge

All men naturally desire knowledge.

Aristotle

Metaphysics, Book A, line 1.

Knowledge

All our knowledge has its origins in our perceptions.

Leonardo da Vinci

Knowledge

All true knowledge contradicts common sense.

Mandell Creighton (1843-1901)

Quoted in M. Creighton: Life and Letters (1904)

Knowledge

An heretic, my dear sir, is a fellow who disagrees with you regarding something neither of you knows anything about.

William CowperBrann

Quoted by Charles Carver, Brann and the Iconoclast, U. of Texas, 1958.

Knowledge

An heretic…is a fellow who disagrees with you regarding something neither of you knows anything about.

William CowperBrann

Knowledge

As geographers, Sosius, crowd into the edges of their maps parts of the world which they do not know about, adding notes in the margin to the effect that beyond this lies nothing but sandy deserts full of wild beasts, and unapproachable bogs.

Plutarch

Lives, Aemilius Paulus, sec. 5

Knowledge

Ay, what is knowledge among men? Who dares call the child by its true name? The few, who have known somewhat of these things, who foolishly did not keep a guard over their full hearts, who revealed their feelings and thoughts to the people, these, from time immemorial, have been crucified and burned.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832)

Faust (1806)

Knowledge

Better to know nothing than half-know many things.

Friedrich Nietzsche

Knowledge

Bodily exercise, when compulsory, does no harm to the body; but knowledge which is acquired under compulsion obtains no hold on the mind.

Plato

The Republic, VII, 536-E

Knowledge

Cherish that which is in you, and shut off that which is without; for much knowledge is a curse.

Chuang Tse

Knowledge

Every man is a valuable member of society who, by his observations, researches, and experiments, procures knowledge for men…it is in his knowledge that man has found his greatness and his happiness, the high superiority which he holds over the other animals who inhabit the earth with him, and consequently no ignorance is probably without loss to him, no error without evil…the particle and the planet are subject to the same laws, and what is learned of one will be known of the other….I bequeath the whole of my property…to the United States of America to found at Washington, under the name of the Smithsonian Institution, an establishment for the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men.

James Smithson, various writings, including his will. Inscription, National Museum of American History, Washington, D.C.

Knowledge

Every mind was made for growth, for knowledge; and its nature is sinned against when it is doomed to ignorance.

William Ellery Channing

Knowledge

For all men strive to grasp what they do not know, while none strive to grasp what they already know; and all strive to discredit what they do excel in. This is why there is chaos.

Chuang Tzu

Opening Trunks, or A Protest Against Civilization

Knowledge

Give light and the people will find their own way.

SCRIPPS-HOWARD newspapers, motto. It is still in current use and may be found on the masthead of the papers they publish, e.g., The Rocky Mountain News.

Knowledge

Grasp the subject, the words will follow.

Marcus Porcius Cato, The Elder

Form Caius Julius Victor, Ars Rhetorica I [4th century A.D.]

Knowledge

I am not one who was born in the possession of knowledge; I am one who is fond of antiquity, and earnest in seeking it there.

Confucius

Knowledge

I attribute the little I know to my not having been ashamed to ask for information, and to my rule of conversation with all descriptions of man of those topics that form their own peculiar professions and pursuits.

John Locke

Knowledge

I grow daily to honor facts more and more, and theory less and less. A fact, it seems to me, is a great thing—a sentence printed, if not by God, then at least by the Devil.

Thomas Carlyle

Letter to Emerson, April 29, 1836.

Knowledge

I have taken all knowledge to by my province.

Francis Bacon

Letter to Lord Burleigh

Knowledge

I never learn anything talking. I only learn things from asking questions.

Lou Holtz

Knowledge

If a man empties his purse into his head no one can take it away from him. An investment in knowledge always pays the best interest.

Attributed to Benjamin Franklin, Poor Richard, in The Home Book of Quotations, ed. Burton Stevenson, 10th ed., p. 1054 (1967), and in The Home Book of American Quotations, ed. Bruce Bohle, p. 220 (1967). Unverified.

Knowledge

If I have seen further, it is by standing on the shoulders of giants.

Sir Isaac Newton

Knowledge

If we work upon marble, it will perish; if we work upon brass, time will efface it; if we rear temples, they will crumble into dust; but if we work upon immortal minds, if we imbue them with principles, with just the fear of God and love of our fellowmen, we engrave on those tablets something which will brighten all eternity.

Daniel Webster

Knowledge

In completing one discovery we never fail to get an imperfect knowledge of others of which we could have no idea before, so that we cannot solve one doubt without creating several new ones.

Joseph Priestley

Knowledge

In truth we know nothing, for truth lies in the depth.

Democritus

Knowledge

It is almost as difficult to make a man unlearn his errors as his knowledge. Malinformation is more hopeless than noninformation; for error is always more busy than ignorance. Ignorance is a blank sheet, on which we may write; but error is a scribbled one, from which we must first erase. Ignorance is content to stand still, with her back to the truth; but error is more presumptuous, and proceeds in the wrong direction. Ignorance has no light, but error follows a false one.

Charles Caleb Colton (1780-1832)

The Lacon (1829)

Knowledge

It is better to be old-fashioned and right than to be up-to-date and wrong.

Tiorio

Knowledge

It is better, of course, to know useless things than to know nothing.

Lucius Annaeus Seneca

Epistles, 88, 45

Knowledge

It isn't what you know that counts, it's what you think of in time.

Benjamin Franklin

Knowledge

Know thyself.

The Seven Sages

Inscription at the Delphic Oracle. From Plutarch, Morals

Knowledge

Know-How will surpass guess-how.

Author Unknown

Knowledge

Knowledge always desires increase: it is like fire, which must first be kindled by some external agent, but which will afterwards propagate itself.

Dr. Samuel Johnson

Knowledge

Knowledge and human power are synonymous.

Francis Bacon

Novum Organum, Aphorism i.

Knowledge

Knowledge and timber shouldn't be much used till they are seasoned.

Oliver Wendell Holmes

Knowledge

Knowledge comes, but wisdom lingers, .

Alfred, Lord Tennyson, "Locksley Hall," line 141, The Poetic and Dramatic Works of Alfred Lord Tennyson, p. 124 (1899).

Knowledge

Knowledge if stored away and not put into use may corrode in time.

Eva Arrington

Knowledge

Knowledge is boundless, but the capacity of one man is limited.

Confucius

Knowledge

Knowledge is essential to conquest, only according to our ignorance are we helpless.

Annie Bessant

Knowledge

Knowledge is of two kinds. We know a subject ourselves, or we know where we can find information upon it.

Samuel Johnson

Knowledge

Knowledge is the conformity of the object and the intellect.

Averroes

Destructio Destructionum

Knowledge

Knowledge must come through action; you can have no test which is fanciful, save by trial.

Sophocles

Knowledge

Knowledge without conscience is the ruination of the soul.

Francois Rabelais

Knowledge

Knowledge, in truth, is the great sun in the firmament. Life and power are scattered with all its beams.

Daniel Webster

Knowledge

Let us now suppose that in the mind of each man there is an aviary of all sorts of birds—some flocking together apart from the rest, others in small groups, others solitary, flying anywhere and everywhere….We may suppose that the birds are kinds of knowledge, and that when we were children, this receptacle was empty; whenever a man has gotten and detained in the enclosure a kind of knowledge: and this is to know.

Plato

Dialogues, Theaetutes, 197

Knowledge

Mediocre men often have the most acquired knowledge.

Claude Bernard

Knowledge

Men must read for amusement as well as for knowledge.

Henry Ward Beecher

Knowledge

Men should be taught as if you taught them not, and things unknown proposed as things forgot; To speak, tho sure, with seeming diffidence.

Alexander Pope

Knowledge

Nam et ipsa scientia potestas est. Knowledge itself is power.

Francis Bacon

Religious Meditations. Of Heresies.

Knowledge

No knowledge can be more satisfactory to a man than that of his own frame, its parts, their functions and actions.

Thomas Jefferson

Knowledge

No man's knowledge here can go beyond his experience.

John Locke

Knowledge

No man's knowledge here can go beyond his experience.

John Locke

Essay Concerning Human Understanding, II, 1, 19

Knowledge

Nothing is so difficult but that it may be found out by seeking.

Terence [Publius Terentius Afer]

Heauton Timoroumenos (The Self-Tormentor), 675

Knowledge

Of all men's miseries the bitterest is this, to know so much and to have control over nothing.

Herodotus

Knowledge

Of all the foundations of establishments for pious or charitable uses, which ever signalized the spirit of the age, or the comprehensive beneficence of the founder, none can be named more deserving of the approbation of mankind than this. Should it be faithfully carried into effect, with an earnestness and sagacity of application, and a steady perseverance of pursuit, proportioned to the means furnished by the will of the founder, and to the greatness and simplicity of his design as by himself declared, "the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men," it is no extravagance of anticipation to declare, that his name will be hereafter enrolled among the eminent benefactors of mankind…. Whoever increases his knowledge, multiplies the uses to which he is enabled to turn the gift of his Creator.

Representative John Quincy Adams, House Report 181, pp. 2, 3, January 19, 1836, and William J. Rhees, The Smithsonian Institution: Documents Relative to Its Origin and History, 1835-1899, vol. 1, pp. 131-32 (1901).

This passage, in a slightly altered form, is inscribed on the exterior of the National Museum of American History, Washington, D.C.: "Of all the foundations of establishments for pious or charitable uses which ever signalized the spirit of the age or the comprehensive beneficence of the founder none can be named more deserving of the approbation of mankind than the Smithsonian Institution. Should it be faithfully carried into effect with an earnestness and sagacity of application…proportioned to the means furnished by the will of the founder and to the greatness and simplicity of his design as by himself declared, 'The increase and diffusion of knowledge among men,' his name will be hereafter enrolled among the eminent benefactors of mankind…whoever increases knowledge multiplies the uses to which he is able to turn the gift of his creator.

John Quincy Adams, 1767-1848, Sixth President of the United States

Knowledge

Our knowledge is the amassed thought and experience of innumerable minds.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Knowledge

Perplexity is the beginning of knowledge.

Kahlil Gibran, The Voice of the Master, trans. Anthony R. Ferris, p. 87 (1958).

Knowledge

Precise knowledge is the only true knowledge, and he who does not teach exactly, does not teach at all.

Henry Ward Beecher

Knowledge

Since we cannot know all that is to be known of everything, we ought to know a little about everything.

Blaise Pascal

Knowledge

Strange how much you've got to know before you know how little you know.

Dr. Samuel Johnson

Knowledge

The absolute natures or kinds are known severally by the absolute idea of knowledge.

Plato

Dialogues, Parmenides, 134

Knowledge

The desire of knowledge, like the thirst of riches, increases ever with the acquisition of it.

Laurence Sterne

Knowledge

The fox knows many things, but the hedgehog knows one great thing.

Archiloghus

Fragment 103

Knowledge

The judge should not be young; he should have learned to know evil, not from his own soul, but from late and long observation of the nature of evil in others; knowledge should be his guide, not personal experience.

Plato

Knowledge

The Master said, Ye, shall I teach you what knowledge is? When you know a thing, to recognize that you know it, and when you do not know a thing, to recognize that you do not know it. That is knowledge.

Confucius (551-479 B.C.)

Analects (tr. Arthur Waley), Bk. II, 17

Knowledge

The mind is the man, and knowledge mind; a man is but what he knoweth.

Francis Bacon

The Praise of Knowledge.

Knowledge

The preservation of the means of knowledge among the lowest ranks is of more importance to the public than all the property of all the rich men in the country.

John Adams

Dissertation on the Canon and the Feudal Law, 1765.

Knowledge

The rest who does not know?

Ovid [Publius Ovidius Naso]

Amores, I, v, 25

Knowledge

The trouble with people is not that they don't know but that they know so much that ain't so.

Attributed to Josh Billings (Henry Wheeler Shaw) by The Oxford Dictionary of Quotations, 3d ed., p. 491 (1979). Not verified in his writings, although some similar ideas are found in Everybody's Friend, or Josh Billing's Encyclopedia and Proverbial Philosophy of Wit and Humor (1874). Original spelling is corrected:

"What little I do know I hope I am certain of" (p. 502).

"Wisdom don't consist in knowing more that is new, but in knowing less that is false" (p. 430).

"I honestly believe it is better to know nothing than to know what ain't So" (p. 286).

Walter Mondale echoed the words above in his first debate with President Ronald Reagan, October 7, 1984, in Louisville, Kentucky: "I'm reminded a little bit of what Will Rogers once said of Hoover. He said it's not what he doesn't know that bothers me, it's what he knows for sure just ain't so."—Transcript, The New York Times, October 8, 1984, p. B4. This has not been found in Rogers's work.

Knowledge

The universe is full of magical things just waiting for our wits to grow sharper.

Author Unknown

Knowledge

The world is governed more by appearance than by realities, so that it is fully as necessary to seem to know something as it is to know it.

Daniel Webster

Knowledge

There is far greater peril in buying knowledge than in buying meat and drink.

Plato

Knowledge

There is nothing so captivating as new knowledge.

Peter Latham

Knowledge

There is only one good, knowledge, and one evil, ignorance.

Socrates

Knowledge

They never open their mouths without subtracting from the sum of human knowledge.

Representative Thomas B. Reed, referring to two of his colleagues in the House of Representatives.—Samuel W. McCall, The Life of Thomas Brackett Reed, chapter 21, p. 248 (1914).

Knowledge

This is the bitterest pain among men, to have much knowledge but no power.

Herodotus

Knowledge

Those who do not read are no better off than those who cannot read.

Author Unknown

Knowledge

Though we may be learned by the help of another's knowledge, we can never be wise but by our own experience.

Montaigne

Knowledge

Three things are necessary for the salvation of man: to know what he ought to believe; to know what he ought to desire; and to know what he ought to do.

St. Thomas Aquinas

Two Precepts of Charity.

Knowledge

To know all things is not permitted.

Horace

Knowledge

To know that you do not know is the best. To pretend to know when you do not know is a disease.

Lao Tzu

The Way Of Lao Tzu 71

Knowledge

To tyrants, indeed, and bad rulers, the progress of knowledge among the mass of mankind is a just object of terror; it is fatal to them and their designs.

Henry Peter Brougham

Practical Observations upon the Education of the People, 1825.

Knowledge

Try to know everything of something, and something of everything.

Henry Peter, Lord Brougham

Knowledge

Try to put into practice what you already know, and in so doing you will in good time discover the hidden things which you now inquire about.

Henry Van Dyke

Knowledge

Waiting is worse than knowing. Grief rends the heart cleanly, that it may begin to heal; waiting shreds the spirit.

Morgan Llewellyn

Knowledge

We have not the reverent feeling for the rainbow that a savage has, because we know how it is made. We have lost as much as we gained by prying into that matter.

Mark Twain (Samuel L. Clemens), A Tramp Abroad, vol. 2 (vol. 4 of The Writings of Mark Twain), chapter 14, p. 189 (1879, reprinted 1968).

Knowledge

We know too much for one man to know much.

J. Robert Oppenheimer

Knowledge

What can I know? What ought I to do? What may I hope?

Immanuel Kant

Knowledge

When you know a thing, to hold that you know it; and when you do not know a thing, to allow that you do not know it—this is knowledge.

Confucius

Knowledge

Where there is the tree of knowledge, there is always Paradise: so say the most ancient and the most modern serpents.

Friedrich Nietzsche

Knowledge

Works of the intellect are great only by comparison with each other.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Knowledge

You can't fool all the people all the time—highway interchange signs come pretty close, however.

Consumer's Information Guide

Labor

1. The International claims for each worker the full product of his labor: finding it wrong that there should be in society so many men who, producing nothing at all, can maintain their insolent riches only by the work of others. The international, like the apostle St. Paul, maintains that "if any would not work, neither should he eat."

Mikhail A. Bakunin

Address, Working People's International Ass'n, 1867.

Labor

A champion of the working man has never yet been known to die of overwork.

Robert Frost

Labor

A huge gap appeared in the side of the mountain. At last a tiny mouse came forth.

Aesop

The Mountain in Labor

Labor

A truly American sentiment recognizes the dignity of labor.

Grover Cleveland

Labor

Athletes as a rule are stronger than their backers; yet the weaker presses the stronger to put forth all his efforts.

St. Jerome

Letter 118

Labor

By labor and intent study (which I take to be my portion in this life), joined with the strong propensity of nature, I might perhaps leave something so written to after-times, as they should not willingly let it die.

John Milton

The Reason of Church Government, II, introduction

Labor

Genius may conceive, but patient labor must consummate.

Horace Mann

Labor

I agree with you, Mr. Chairman, that the working men are the basis of all governments, for the plain reason that they are the more numerous, and as you added that those were the sentiments of the gentlemen present, representing not only the working class, but citizens of other callings than those of the mechanic, I am happy to concur with you in these sentiments, not only of the native born citizens, but also of the Germans and foreigners from other countries.

Abraham Lincoln, speech to Germans at Cincinnati, Ohio, February 12, 1861 [Commercial version].—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Boy P. Basler vol. 4, p. 202 (1953).

Labor

I have everything, yet have nothing; and although I possess nothing, still of nothing am I in want.

Terence [Publius Terentius Afer]

Eunuchus, 243

Labor

I should rather labor as another's serf, in the home of a man without fortune, one whose livelihood was meager, than rule over all the departed dead.

Homer

The Odyssey, XI 489

Labor

I would like to see a fair division of profits between capital and labor, so that the toiler could save enough to mingle a little June with the December of his life.

Robert G. Ingersoll

Labor

I've had the best possible chance of learning that what the working-classes really need is to be allowed some part in the direction of public affairs, Doctor—to develop their abilities, their understanding and their self-respect.

Henrik Ibsen, An Enemy of the People, English adaptation by Max Faber act II, p. 28 (1970). Mr. Hovstad is speaking.

Labor

In the early days of the world, the Almighty said to the first of our race "In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread"; and since then, if we except the light and the air of heaven, no good thing has been, or can be enjoyed by us, without having first cost labour. And inasmuch [as] most good things are produced by labour, it follows that [all] such things of right belong to those whose labour has produced them. But it has so happened in all ages of the world, that some have labored, and others have, without labour, enjoyed a large proportion of the fruits. This is wrong, and should not continue. To [secure] to each labourer the whole product of his labour, or as nearly as possible, is a most worthy object of any good government.

Abraham Lincoln, fragments of a tariff discussion, December 1, 1847?, The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Boy P. Basler vol. 1, pp. 407-8 (1953).

Labor

It is better then, to save the work while it is begun. You have done the labor; maintain it—keep it. If men choose to serve you, go with them; but as you have made up your organization upon principle, stand by it; for as surely as God reigns over you, and has inspired your mind, and given you a sense of propriety, and continues to give you hope, so surely will you still cling to these ideas, and you will at last come back after your wanderings, merely to do your work over again.

Abraham Lincoln, speech at Chicago, Illinois, July 10, 1858.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Boy P. Basler vol. 2, p. 498 (1953).

Labor

Labor disgraces no man; unfortunately you occasionally find men disgrace labor.

Ulysses S. Grant

Labor

Labor in a white skin cannot be free as long as labor in a black skin is branded.

Karl Marx

Labor

Labor in this country is independent and proud. It has not to ask the patronage of capital, but capital solicits the aid of labor.

Daniel Webster

Labor

Labor is prior to, and independent of, capital. Capital is only the fruit of labor and could never have existed if labor had not first existed. Labor is the superior of capital, and deserves much the higher consideration.

President Abraham Lincoln, annual message to Congress, December 3, 1861.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Boy P. Basler vol. 5, p. 52 (1953).

Labor

Labor: One of the processes by which A acquires property of B.

Ambrose Bierce

The Devil's Dictionary.

Labor

Let each man exercise the art he knows.

Aristophanes

Wasps, 1431

Labor

Like all other contracts, wages should be left to the fair and free competition of the market and should never be controlled by the interference of the legislatures.

David Ricardo

Labor

Sublimity is the echo of a noble mind.

Longinus

On the Sublime, sec. 9

Labor

The most notable feature of a disturbance in your city last summer was the hanging of some working people by other working people. It should never be so. The strongest bond of human sympathy, outside of the family relation, should be one uniting all working people, of all nations, and tongues, and kindreds.

President Abraham Lincoln, reply to New York Workingmen's Democratic Republican Association, March 21, 1864.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Boy P. Basler vol. 7, p. 259 (1953).

Labor

There is no excellence without labor, in the furnace, God may try you, thus to bring thee forth more bright.

Author Unknown

Labor

There's no labor a man can do that's undignified—if he does it right.

Bill Cosby

Labor

They are usually denominated labor-saving machines, but it would be more just to call them labor-doing machines.

Senator Daniel Webster, remarks in the Senate, March 12, 1838.—The Writings and Speeches of Daniel Webster vol. 8, p. 177 (1903).

Labor

We are not sent into the world to do anything into which we cannot put our hearts. We have certain work to do for our own bread, and that is to be done strenuously; other work to do for our delight, and that is to be done heartily. Neither is to be done by halves, but with a will, and what is not worth this effort is not to be done at all.

John Ruskin

Labor

You see him laboring to produce bons mots.

Molière [Jean Baptiste Poquelin]

Le Misanthrope, II, 5

Labor Unions

Don't waste any time mourning—organize!

Joe Hill, letter to William D. Haywood, November 18, 1915.—Philip S. Foner The Letters of Joe Hill, p. 84 (1965).Joe Hill was a member of the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW), and was "the Wobblies" most famous and most prolific writer of working class songs." Hill had been convicted "on the flimsiest of evidence—all circumstantial" of slaying a Salt Lake City grocer, and sentenced to death. "It appears obvious that a real effort had been made to 'fix' the case against him." Despite an international movement to reverse the conviction or grant a new trial, Hill was shot and killed by a firing squad on November 19, 1915 (pp. 7, 9, 10).

Labor Unions

It ill behooves one who has supped at labor's table and who has been sheltered in labor's house to curse with equal fervor and fine impartiality both labor and its adversaries when they become locked in deadly embrace.

John L. Lewis, president of the Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO), radio broadcast, September 3, 1937.—Vital Speeches of the Day, September 15, 1937, p. 733.The New York Times account said, "The fact that Mr. Lewis did not mention the President by name did not dull the point in the eyes of those who had followed labor developments through the violent days of last Winter and Spring. These observers unanimously accepted this part of his speech as a direct reference to Mr. [Franklin D.] Roosevelt's invocation of 'a plague on both your houses' when the labor unions and steel mill operators were 'locked in deadly embrace' only a few months ago."—September 4, 1937, p. 1.

"A plague on both your houses" is from Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet, act 111, scene i, line 112.

Labor Unions

The United Mine Workers and the CIO have paid cash on the barrel for every piece of legislation that we have gotten. We have the Wagner Act. The Wagner Act cost us many dollars in contributions which the United Mine Workers have made to the Roosevelt administration with the explicit understanding of a quid pro quo for labor. These contributions far exceed the notions held by the general public or the press.

John L. Lewis, president of the Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO).—Saul David Alinsky, John L. Lewis: An Unauthorized Biography, p. 177 (1949).

Labor Unions

There may be here and there a worker who for certain reasons unexplainable to us does not join a union of labor. That is his right. It is his legal right, no matter how morally wrong he may be. It is his legal right, and no one can or dare question his exercise of that legal right.

Samuel Gompers, address delivered to the Council of Foreign Relations, New York City, December 10, 1918.—American Federationist, February 1919, p. 160.

Labor Unions

To remember the loneliness, the fear and the insecurity of men who once had to walk alone in huge factories, beside huge machines—to realize that labor unions have meant new dignity and pride to millions of our countrymen—human companionship on the job, and music in the home—to be able to see what larger pay checks mean, not to a man as an employee, but as a husband and as a father—to know these things is to understand what American labor means.

Adlai E. Stevenson, governor of Illinois, speech to the American Federation of Labor New York City, September 22, 1952.—Speeches of Adlai Stevenson, p. 62 (1952).

Labor Unions

We will stand by our friends and administer a stinging rebuke to men or parties who are either indifferent, negligent, or hostile, and, wherever opportunity affords, to secure the election of intelligent, honest, earnest trade unionists, with clear unblemished, paid-up union cards in their possession.

Samuel Gompers, "Men of Labor! Be Up and Doing," editorial, American Federationist, May 1906, p. 319.

Language

Accent is the soul of language; it gives to it both feeling and truth.

Rousseau

Language

For more than forty years I have been speaking prose without knowing it.

Molière

Language

I speak Spanish to God, Italian to women, French to men, and German to my horse.

Charles Vof France

Attributed

Language

If names are not correct, language will not be in accordance with the truth of things.

Confucius

Language

In Paris they simply stared when I spoke to them in French; I never did succeed in making those idiots understand their own language.

Mark Twain

Language

Language human language after all is, but little better than the croak and cackle of fowls, and other utterances of brute nature sometimes not so adequate.

Nathaniel Hawthorne

Language

Language is not an abstract construction of the learned, or of dictionary-makers, but is something arising out of the work, needs, ties, joys, affections, tastes, of long generations of humanity, and has its bases broad and low, close to the ground.

Walt Whitman

Language

The chief virtue that language can have a clearness, and nothing detracts from it so much as the use of unfamiliar words.

Hippocrates

Language

The English language is the most scientific instrument at your disposal. Learn to use it with precision.

C. W. Faulk

Language

The English tongue is rapidly spreading and bids fair to become the general language of the human race.

John Lubbock

Last

The setting sun, and music at the close,

As the last taste of sweets, is sweetest last,

Writ in remembrance more than things long past.

William Shakespeare

King Richard II, II, i, 12

Last Words

"What is the answer?" she asked, and when no answer came she laughed and said: "Then, what is the question?"

Gertrude Stein, last words, according to Elizabeth Sprigge, Gertrude Stein, Her Life and Work, p. 265 (1957)."What is the answer?….In that case…what is the question?" is the version in What Is Remembered (1963) by Alice B. Toklas, p. 173, though these are not specifically labeled Stein's last words.

Last Words

Don't give up the ship.

Although this quotation has been attributed to

several historical figures, the only documented

source is the blue battle-flag inscribed with these words

ordered and used by Oliver Hazard Perry as a signal

during the battle of Lake Erie, September 10, 1813.

Although popularly attributed to Captain James Lawrence

as his dying words during a battle with a British frigate

off the coast of Boston on June 1, 1813, there remains

the possibility these words were not his,

but those of someone reporting the battle.

For other attributed sources and theories, see:

Macmillan Book of Proverbs, Maxims, and Famous Phrases,

ed. Burton Stevenson, p. 2091 (1965); Charles C. Bombaugh,

Facts and Fancies for the Curious, pp. 388-89 (1905);

William S. Walsh, Hand-Book of Literary Curiosities,

pp. 1004-5 (1929); Dictionary of American History, rev. ed.,

vol. 2, p. 364 (1976); and Motor Boating, October 1965, p. 72.

Last Words

To die will be an awfully big adventure.

Sir James M. Barrie, Peter Pan, act III, final sentence, p. 94 (1930, reprinted 1975).This line was quoted by Barrie's friend, American impresario Charles Frohman, as he plunged to his death on the Lusitania.—The Dictionary of National Biography, 1931-1940, p. 49.

Laughter

A good laugh is sunshine in a house.

William Makepeace Thackeray

Laughter

A great step towards independence is a good-humored stomach, one that is willing to endure rough treatment.

Lucius Annaeus Seneca

Epistles, 123, 3

Laughter

And if I laugh at any mortal thing.

'Tis that I may not weep.

George Gordon, Lord Byron

Laughter

But let me laugh awhile, I've mickle time to grieve.

John Keats

Laughter

I hasten to laugh at everything, for fear of being obliged to weep.

Pierre Augustin de Beaumarchais

Laughter

I laugh because I must not cry.

Abraham Lincoln

Laughter

If I were given the opportunity to present a gift to the next generation, it would be the ability for each individual to learn to laugh at himself.

Charles Schultz

Laughter

If you're not allowed to laugh in heaven, I don't want to go there.

Martin Luther

Laughter

It better befits a man to laugh at life than to lament over it.

Seneca

Laughter

Laugh, and the world laughs with you;

Weep, and you weep alone.

For the sad old earth must borrow its mirth,

But has troubles enough of its own.

Ella Wheeler Wilcox

Laughter

Laughter is the sensation of feeling good all over and showing it principally in one place.

Josh Billings (Henry Wheeler Shaw)

Laughter

Laughter translates into any language.

Graffiti

Laughter

Myriad laughter of the ocean waves.

Aeschylus

Prometheus Bound, 89

Laughter

Neither will I make myself anybody's laughingstock.

Miguel de Cervantes

Don Quixote, pt. II, III, 5, 475

Laughter

No one is more profoundly sad than he who laughs too much.

Jean Paul Richter

Laughter

One must have a heart of stone to read the death of Little Nell without laughing.

Oscar Wilde

Laughter

Shall I crack any of those old jokes, master,

At which the audience never fail to laugh?

Aristophanes

Frogs, 1

Laughter

The human race has only one really effective weapon and that is laughter.

Mark Twain

Laughter

The vulgar often laugh, but seldom smile; whereas wellbred people often smile, but seldom laugh.

Lord Chesterfield

Laughter

There is nothing more silly than a silly laugh.

Gaius Valerius Catullus

Carmina, XXXIX, 16

Laughter

They laugh that win.

William Shakespeare

Othello, IV, i, 123

Laughter

To laugh, if but for an instant only, has never been granted to man before the fortieth day from his birth, and then it is looked upon as a miracle of precocity.

Pliny the Elder

Natural History, VII, 2

Laughter

Uncontrollable laughter arose among the blessed gods.

Homer

The Iliad, I, 599

Laughter

With the fearful strain that is on me night and day, if I did not laugh I should die.

Abraham Lincoln

Law

"If the law supposes that," said Mr. Bumble, "the law is a ass—a idiot. If that's the eye of the law, the law is a bachelor; and the worst I wish the law is that his eye may be opened by experience—by experience."

Charles Dickens, Oliver Twist, chapter 51, p. 489 (1970). First published serially 1837-1839.

Law

Equity is a roguish thing. For Law we have a measure, know what to trust to; Equity is according to the conscience of him that is Chancellor, and as that is larger or narrower, so is Equity. 'Tis all one as if they should make the standard for the measure we call a "foot" a Chancellor's foot; what an uncertain measure would this be! One Chancellor has a long foot, another a short foot, a third an indifferent foot. 'Tis the same thing in the Chancellor's conscience.

John Selden

Table Talk. Equity

Law

Ignorance of the law excuses no man; not that all men know the saw, but because 'tis an excuse every man will plead, and no man can tell now to refute him.

John Selden

Table Talk. Law

Law

A government of laws and not of men.

John Adams, "Novanglus Papers," no. 7.—The Works of John Adams, ed. Charles Francis Adams, vol. 4, p. 106 (1851).Adams published articles in 1774 in the Boston, Massachusetts, Gazette using the pseudonym "Novanglus." In this paper he credited James Harrington with expressing the idea this way. Harrington described government as "the empire of laws and not of men" in his 1656 work, The Commonwealth of Oceana, p. 35 (1771). The phrase gained wider currency when Adams used it in the Massachusetts Constitution, Bill of Rights, article 30 (1780).—Works, vol. 4, p. 230.

Law

A strict observance of the written laws is doubtless one of the high duties of a good citizen, but it is not the highest. The laws of necessity, of self-preservation, of Saving our country when in danger, are of higher obligation. To lose our country by a scrupulous adherence to written law, would be to lose the law itself, with life, liberty, property and all those who are enjoying them with us; thus absurdly sacrificing the end to the means.

Thomas Jefferson, letter to John B. Colvin, September 20, 1810.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Paul L. Ford, vol. 9, p. 279 (1898).

Law

All law has for its object to confirm and exalt into a system the exploitation of the workers by a ruling class.

Mikhail A. Bakunin

Dieu et l'Etat, posthumously published, 1882.

Law

And the law, that is the perfection of reason, cannot suffer any thing that is inconvenient…for reason is the life of the law, nay the common law itself is nothing else but reason.

Sir Edward Coke (1552-1634)

The Institutes (1628), "A Commentary upon Littleton," First Institute

Law

Any law that takes hold of a man's daily life cannot prevail in a community, unless the vast majority of the community are actively in favor of it. The laws that are the most operative are the laws which protect life.

Henry Ward Beecher, "Civil Law and the Sabbath," sermon delivered December 3, 1882.—Plymouth Pulpit, vol. 5 (new series), p. 416 (1883).

Law

As the case stands.

Thomas Middleton

The Old Law, II, 1

Law

Ask of politicians the ends for which laws were originally designed, and they will answer that the laws were designed as a protection for the poor and the weak against the oppression of the rich and powerful. But surely no pretense can be so ridiculous; a man might as well tell me he has taken off my load, because he has changed the burden.

Edmund Burke

A Vindication of Natural Society, 1756.

Law

Because just as good morals, if they are to be maintained, have need of the laws, so the laws, if they are to be observed, have need of good morals.

Niccolo Machiavelli, Discourses on the First Decade of Titus Livius, trans. Allan Gilbert, book 1, chapter 18, p. 241 (1965).

Law

Because law ought to reform vice and promote virtues, the guiding principles of life can be inferred from it. Wisdom is the mother of all good things, and philosophy has taken its name from the Greek expression that means "love of wisdom." Of all the gifts of the gods to the human race, philosophy is the richest, the most beautiful, the most exalted. Besides all its other wisdoms, philosophy has informed us that the most difficult thing in the world is to know ourselves. This adage is so decisive for us that credit is given for it not to one person, but to the god at Delphi.

Marcus Tullius Cicero (106-43 B.C.)

De Legibus (52 B.C.), III

Law

By the former of these (canon law), the most refined, sublime, extensive, and astonishing constitution of policy that ever was conceived by the mind of man was framed by the Romish clergy for the aggrandizement of their own order.

John Adams

Dissertation on the Canon and the Feudal Law, 1765.

Law

Common law is above Parliament and the King.

Sir Edward Coke (1552-1634)

The Institutes (1628)

Law

De minimis non curat lex.

The law is not concerned with trifles.

Anonymous Latin Legal Maxim

Law

Early law is hardly to be separated from religious ritual; it is more like the tradition of a Church than the enactments of a stature-book.

George F. Baer

The Metaphysical Basis of Toleration, Contemporary Review, April, 1874.

Law

Even when laws have been written down, they ought not always to remain unaltered.

Aristotle

Politics, II, 8

Law

Go tell the Spartans, thou who passest by, That here, obedient to their laws, we lie.

Simonides

Fragment 92

Law

God Himself cannot alter the laws of a priore truth.

Hasdai Ben Abraham Crescas (1340-1410)

The Light of the Lord (or Adonai) (c. 1400)

Law

God so commanded, and left that command

Sole daughter of his voice; the rest, we live

Law to ourselves, our reason is our law.

John Milton

Paradise Lost, IX, 652

Law

Good men must not obey the laws too well.

Ralph Waldo Emerson, "Politics," Essays: Second Series, in Complete Writings of Ralph Waldo Emerson, vol. 1, p. 300 (1929).

Law

Good men must obey the laws too well….Hence the less government we have the better—the fewer laws and the less confided power…. To educate the wise man the State exists, and with the appearance of the wise man the State expires. The appearance of character makes the State unnecessary. The wise man is the State.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Essays: Second Series (1844), "Politics"

Law

Habeas corpus.

You are to produce the person [of the accused].

Anonymous Latin Legal maxim

Law

He that keepeth the law of the Lord getteth the understanding thereof: and the perfection of the fear of the Lord is wisdom.

The Bible (Apocrypha), Ecclesiasticus 21:11.

Law

If one man can be allowed to determine for himself what is law, every man can. That means first chaos, then tyranny. Legal process is an essential part Of the democratic process.

Justice Felix Frankfurter, concurring, United States v. Mine Workers, 330 U.S. 312 (1946).

Law

If you like laws and sausages, you should never watch either one being made.

Widely attributed to Otto von Bismarck. Unverified.

Law

It cannot be helped, it is as it should be, that the law is behind the times.

Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, speech at Harvard Law School Association of New York, New York City, February IS, 1913.—Speeches by Oliver Wendell Holmes, p. 101 (1934).

Law

It is important, of course, that controversies be settled right, but there are many civil questions which arise between individuals in which it is not so important the controversy be settled one way or another as that it be settled. Of course a settlement of a controversy on a fundamentally wrong principle of law is greatly to be deplored, but there must of necessity be many rules governing the relations between members of the same society that are more important in that their establishment creates a known rule of action than that they proceed on one principle or another. Delay works always for the man with the longest purse.

Chief Justice William Howard Taft, informal address to the judicial section of the American Bar Association, Cincinnati, Ohio, August 30, 1921.—"Adequate Machinery for Judicial Business," American Bar Association Journal, September 1921, p. 453.

Law

It is revolting to have no better reason for a rule of law than that so it was laid down in the time of Henry IV.

Oliver Wendell Holmes, associate justice, supreme court of Massachusetts, address delivered at the dedication of the new hall of Boston University School of Law, Boston, Massachusetts, January 8, 1897.—Holmes, Address Delivered at the Dedication, p.18 (1897).

Law

It will be of little avail to the people, that the laws are made by men of their own choice, if the laws be so voluminous that they cannot be read, or so incoherent that they cannot be understood; if they be repealed or revised before they are promulgated, or undergo such incessant changes that no man, who knows what the law is today, can guess what it will be tomorrow.

James Madison (?), The Federalist, ed. Benjamin F. Wright, no. 62, pp. 411-12 (1961).

Law

Law is a bottomless pit.

John Arbuthnot

The History of John Bull, 1712.

Law

Law is a Bottomless-Pit, it is a Cormorant, a Harpy, that devours every thing.

John Arbuthnot, The History of John Bull, ed. Alan W Bower and Robert A. Erickson, chapter 6, p. 10 (1976). First published in 1712.

Law

Law is intelligence, whose natural function it is to command right conduct and forbid wrongdoing.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

Laws (De Legibus).

Law

Law is order, and good law is good order.

Aristotle

Politics, VII, 4

Law

Law is the highest Reason implanted in Nature, which commands what ought to be done, and forbids the opposite.

Marcus Tullius Cicero (106-43 B.C.)

De Legibus (52 B.C.)

Law

Law is the security for the enjoyment of the high rank which we enjoy in the Republic; this is the foundation of liberty, this is the fountainhead of all justice; in the laws are found the will, the spirit, the prudence and the decision of the state.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

Laws (De Legibus).

Law

Law never is, but is always about to be.

Benjamin Cardozo, justice, Court of Appeals of New York State, lecture to Yale Law School, 1921.—The Nature of the Judicial Process, lecture 3, p. 126 (1921).

Law

Law tends, no less than creeds, catechisms and tests, to fix the human mind in a flagrant condition, and to substitute a principle of permanence, in the room of that unceasing progress which is the only salubrious element of mind…

From these considerations we can scarcely hesitate to conclude universally, that law is an institution of the most pernicious tendency.

William Godwin (1756-1836)

An Inquiry Concerning Political Justice

and Its Influence on General Virtue and Happiness (1793)

Law

Law: an ordinance of reason for the common good, made by him who has care of the community.

St. Thomas Aquinas

Summa Theologica.

Law

Laws and police regulations can be compared to a spider's web that lets the big mosquitoes through and catches the small ones.

Julius Wilhelm Zincgref

Apophthegmata, II

Law

Laws are like spiders' webs, which stand firm when any light, yielding object falls upon them, while a larger thing breaks through them and escapes.

Solon

From Plutarch, The Banquet of the Seven Wise Men

Law

Laws gentle are seldom obeyed; too severe seldom executed.

Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790)

Poor Richard's Almanac, 1738

Law

Let it be carefully remembered that the preservation of the laws was the sole reason which induced men to allow of, and to elect a superior; because that is the true origin of sovereign power.

Frederick (II) The Great (1712-1784)

An Essay on Forms of government (1777)

Law

Make no laws whatever concerning speech, and speech will be free; so soon as you make a declaration on paper that speech shall be free, you will have a hundred lawyers proving that "freedom does not mean abuse, nor liberty license"; and they will define and define freedom out of existence.

Voltarine de Cleyre (1866-1912)

Quoted in Sinclair, The Cry for Justice (1920)

Law

No laws are binding on the human subject which assault the body or violate the conscience.

Sir William Blackstone

Commentaries on the Laws of England, 1765.

Law

Numberless have been the systems of iniquity contrived by the great for the gratification of this passion in themselves; but in none of them were they ever more successful than in the invention and establishment of the canon and the feudal law.

John Adams

Dissertation on the Canon and the Feudal Law, 1765.

Law

Of all these things respecting which learned men dispute there is none more important than clearly to understand that we are born for justice, and that right is founded not in opinion, but in nature.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

Laws (De Legibus).

Law

Republics abound in young civilians who believe that the laws make the city, that grave modifications of the policy and modes of living and employments of the population, that commerce, education and religion may be voted in or out; and that any measure, though it were absurd, may be imposed on a people if only you can get sufficient voices to make it a law. But the wise know that foolish legislation is a rope of sand which perishes in the twisting; that the State must follow and not lead the character and progress of the citizen; that the form of government which prevails is the expression of what cultivation exists in the population which permits it. The law is only a memorandum.

Ralph Waldo Emerson, "Politics," Essays: Second Series (vol. 3 of The Complete Works of Ralph Waldo Emerson), pp. 199-200 (1903).

Law

Res iudicata pro veritate habetur.

A matter which has been [legally] decided is considered true.

Anonymous Latin Legal maxim

Law

So great moreover is the regard of the law for private property, that it will not authorize the least violation of it; no, not even for the general good of the whole community.

Sir William Blackstone, Commentaries on the Laws of England, 9th ed., book 1, chapter 1, section 3, p. 139 (1783, reprinted 1978).

Law

Solon used to say…that laws were like cobwebs—for if any trifling or powerless thing fell into them, they held it fast; while if it were something weightier, it broke through them and was off.

Diogenes Laertius (fl. 200 A.D.)

Lives and Opinions of Eminent Philosophers, "Solon"

Law

That to live by one man's will became the cause of all men's misery.

Richard Hooker

Laws of Ecclesiastical Polity, bk. 1

Law

The chief foundations of all states, new as well as old or composite, are good laws and good arms; and as there cannot be good laws where the state is not well armed, it follows that where they are well armed they have good laws.

Niccolo Machiavelli

The Prince, ch. 12

Law

The law is not a "light" for you or any man to see by; the law is not an instrument of any kind. The law is a causeway upon which so long as he keeps to it a citizen may walk safely.

Robert Bolt, A Man for All Seasons, act II, p. 92 (1967). Sir Thomas More is speaking.

Law

The law no longer recognizes religious vows, nor any other obligation which may be contrary to natural rights or to the Constitution.

France (Official and semi-official)

Constitution (1791), Preamble

Law

The laws of God, the laws of man,

He may keep that will and can;

Not I: let God and man decree

Laws for themselves and not for me;

And if my ways are not as theirs

Let them mind their own affairs.

A. E. Houseman, "The laws of God, the laws of man," line 1-6, Last Poems, in The Collected Poems, p. 79 (1967).

Law

The ministers of the law are its magistrates; the interpreters of the law are the judges; we are, therefore, all slaves of the laws that we may enjoy freedom.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

Laws (De Legibus).

Law

The most learned men have determined to begin with law, and it would seem that they are right, if, according to their definition, law is the highest reason, implanted in nature, which commands what ought to be done and forbids the opposite. This reason, when firmly fixed and fully developed in the human mind, is law.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

Laws (De Legibus).

Law

The safety of the people shall be the highest law.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

Laws (De Legibus).

Law

There is a written and an unwritten law. The one by which we regulate our constitutions in our cities is the written law; that which arises from custom is the unwritten law.

Diogenes Laertius

Plato, 51

Law

There is but one law for all; namely, that law which governs all law—the law of our Creator, the law of humanity, justice, equity; the law of nature and of nations.

Edmund Burke

Law

There is no jewel in the world comparable to learning; no learning so excellent both for Prince and subject, as knowledge of laws; and no knowledge of any laws (I speak of human) so necessary for all estates and for all causes, concerning goods, lands or life, as the common laws of England.

Sir Edward Coke, Le Second Part Des Reportes Del Edward Coke, p. vi (1600-1659). Spelling modernized.

Law

There is no law governing all things.

Giordano Bruno

De monade numero et figura, ii.

Law

There is, therefore, only one categorical imperative. It is: Act only according to that maxim by which you can at the same time will that it should become a universal law.

Immanuel Kant, Foundations of the Metaphysics of Morals, trans. Lewis W. Beck, ed. Robert P Wolff, section 2, p. 44 (1969).

Law

Thou shalt have one God only; who

Would be at the expense of two?

Thou shalt not kill; but need'st not strive

Officiously to keep alive.

Thou shalt not steal; an empty feat,

When it's so lucrative to cheat.

Thou shalt not covet; but tradition

Approves all forms of competition.

Arthur Hugh Clough (1819-1861)

The Last Decalogue (1861)

Law

To bereave a man of life or by violence to confiscate his estate, without accusation or trial, would be so gross and notorious an act of despotism, as must at once convey the alarm of tyranny throughout the whole nation; but confinement of the person, by secretly hurrying him to jail, where his sufferings are unknown or forgotten, is a less public, a less striking, and therefore a more dangerous engine of arbitrary government.

Sir William Blackstone

Commentaries on the Laws of England, 1765.

Law

True law is right reason in agreement with nature; it is of universal application, unchanging and everlasting; it summons to duty by its command, and averts from wrongdoing by it prohibition.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

Laws (De Legibus).

Law

True law is right reason in agreement with nature; it is of universal application, unchanging and everlasting; it summons to duty by its commands, and averts from wrongdoing by its prohibitions. And it does not lay its commands or prohibitions upon good men in vain, though neither have any effect on the wicked. It is a sin to try to to [sic] alter this law, nor is it allowable to attempt to repeal any part of it, and it is impossible to abolish it entirely. We cannot be freed from its obligations by senate or people, and we need not look outside ourselves for an expounder or interpreter of it. And there will not be different laws at Rome and at Athens, or different laws now and in the future, but one eternal and unchangeable law will be valid for all nations and all times, and there will be one master and ruler, that is, God, over us all, for he is the author of this law, its promulgator, and its enforcing judge. Whoever is disobedient is fleeing from himself and denying his human nature, and by reason of this very fact he will suffer the worst penalties, even if he escapes what is commonly considered punishment.

Marcus Tullius Cicero, De Re Publica she Republic), book 3, paragraph 22.—De Re Publica, De Legibus, trans. Clinton W. Keyes, p. 211 (1943).

Law

We must not make a scarecrow of the law,

Setting it up to fear the birds of prey,

And let it keep one shape, till custom make it

Their perch, and not their terror.

William Shakespeare

Measure for Measure, II, i, 1

Law

When men are pure, laws are useless; when men are corrupt laws are broken.

Benjamin Disraeli (Earl of Beaconsfield) (1804-1881)

Contarini Fleming (1832)

Law

When the end is lawful, the means are also lawful.

Hermann Busenbaum

Medulla Theologiae, 1650.

Law

Whoever desires to found a state and give it laws, must start with assuming that all men are bad and ever ready to display their vicious nature, whenever they may find occasion for it.

Niccolo Machiavelli

Discourse Upon the First Ten Bookds of Liby, I, 3

Law

Written laws are like spiders' webs, and will like them only entangle and hold the poor and weak, while the rich and powerful will easily break through them.

Anarcharsis

To Solon.

Law

You would oppose law to socialism. But it is the law which socialism invokes. It aspires to legal, not extra-legal plunder….You wish to prevent it from taking any part in the making of laws. You would keep it outside the Legislative Palace. In this you will not succeed, I venture to prophesy, so long as legal plunder is the basis of the legislation within.

It is absolutely necessary that this question of legal plunder should be determined, and there are only three solutions of it:

1. When the few plunder the many.

2. When everybody plunders everybody else.

3. When nobody plunders anybody.

Partial plunder, universal plunder, absence of plunder, amongst these we have to make our choice. The law can only produce one of these results.

Partial plunder.—This is the system which prevailed so long as the elective privilege was partial; a system which is resorted to, to avoid the invasion of socialism.

Universal plunder.—We have been threatened by this system when the elective privilege has become universal; the masses having conceived the idea of making law, on the principle of legislators who had preceded them.

Absence of plunder.—This is the principle of justice, peace, order, stability, conciliation, and of good sense.

Frederic Bastiat, Essays on Political Economy, part 4, "The Law," p. 20 (185-?).

Law/Lawyers/Judges/Supreme Court

"In my youth," said his father, "I look to the law,

And argued each case with my wife;

And the muscular strength which it gave to my jaw

Has lasted the rest of my life."

Lewis Carroll

Law/Lawyers/Judges/Supreme Court

Bad laws are the worst sort of tyranny.

Edmund Burke

Law/Lawyers/Judges/Supreme Court

By God, I will not obey this filthy enactment!

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Law/Lawyers/Judges/Supreme Court

Every actual state is corrupt. Good men must not obey laws too well.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Law/Lawyers/Judges/Supreme Court

Law is nothing unless close behind it stands a warm living public opinion.

Wendell Phillips

Law/Lawyers/Judges/Supreme Court

Law never made men a whit more just.

Henry David Thoreau

Law/Lawyers/Judges/Supreme Court

Laws and institutions must go hand in hand with the progress of the human mind.

Thomas Jefferson

Law/Lawyers/Judges/Supreme Court

Laws are like cobwebs, for any trifling or powerless thing falls into them, they hold it fast; but if a thing of any size falls into them, it breaks the mesh and escapes.

Anarcharsis

Law/Lawyers/Judges/Supreme Court

Laws are spider webs through which the big flies pass and the little ones get caught.

Honore de Balzac

Law/Lawyers/Judges/Supreme Court

Nobody has a more sacred obligation to obey the law than those who make the law.

Sophocles

Law/Lawyers/Judges/Supreme Court

The greater the number of laws and enactments, the more thieves and robbers there will be.

Lao Tzu

Law/Lawyers/Judges/Supreme Court

The law is reason free from passion.

Aristotle

Law/Lawyers/Judges/Supreme Court

There is no crueler tyranny than that which is perpetuated under the shield of law and in the name of justice.

Baron de Montesquieu

Law/Lawyers/Judges/Supreme Court

What do I care about law? Hain't I got the power?

Cornelius Vanderbilt

Law/Lawyers/Judges/Supreme Court

Where law ends, tyranny begins.

William Pitt

Law

Pope's Law—All looks yellow to a jaundiced eye.

Alexander Pope

Law

Billings' Law—Live within your income, even if you have to borrow to do so.

Josh Billings

Law

Laws are like cobwebs, which may catch small flies, but let wasps and hornets break through.

Jonathan Swift

Law

Laws are like spiders' webs, which stand firm when any light, yielding object falls upon them, while a large thing breaks through them and escapes.

Solon

Law

Somebody figured it out, we have 35 million laws to enforce ten commandments.

Earl Wilson

Law

The force of necessity is irresistible.

Aeschylus

Prometheus Vinctus.

Law

The law is the last result of human wisdom acting upon human experience for the benefit of the public.

Samuel Johnson

Law/Lawyers

Discourage litigation. Persuade your neighbor to compromise whenever you can. As a peacemaker the lawyer has a superior opportunity of being a good man. There will still be business enough.

Abraham Lincoln

Law/Lawyers

I know no method to secure the repeal of bad or obnoxious laws so effective as their stringent enforcement.

Ulysses S. Grant

Law/Lawyers

If there were no bad people there could be no good lawyers.

Charles Dickens

The Old Curiosity Shop

Law/Lawyers

If we could make a great bonfire of the thousands of laws we have in this country, and start all over again with only the Golden Rule and the Ten Commandments, I am sure we would get along much better.

Coleman Cox

Law/Lawyers

It is to law alone that men owe justice and liberty. It is the salutary organ of the will of all which establishes in civil rights the natural equality between men. It is this celestial voice which dictates to each citizen the precepts of public reason, and teaches him to act according to the rules of his own judgment and not to behave inconsistently with himself. It is with this voice alone that political leaders should speak when they command.

Jean Jacques Rousseau

Law/Lawyers

Probably all laws are useless; for good men do not want laws at all, and bad men are made no better by them.

Demonax (c. 150 A.D.)

Quoted in Lucian, Demonax, Section 59

Law/Lawyers

The judge is condemned when the guilty are acquitted.

Publilius Syrus

Law/Lawyers

The strictest law sometimes becomes the severest injustice.

Terence

Law/Lawyers

America is the paradise of lawyers.

Attributed to Justice David J. Brewer.—Champ Clark, My Quarter Century of American Politics, vol. 2, p. 130 (1920).Clark was Speaker of the House from 1911-1919.

Law/Lawyers

That makes me think, my friend, as I have often done before, how natural it is that those who have spent a long time in the study of philosophy appear ridiculous when they enter the courts of law as speakers…. Those who have knocked about in courts and the like from their youth up seem to me, when compared with those who have been brought up in philosophy and similar pursuits, to be as slaves in breeding compared with freemen.

Plato, Theactetus, trans. H. N. Fowler, p. 115 (1921).

Law/Lawyers

The first thing we do, let's kill all the lawyers.

William Shakespeare, Henry VI part II, act IV, scene ii, lines 83-84. Dick the butcher is speaking.

Law/Lawyers

The purpose of the University of Washington cannot be to produce black lawyers for blacks, Polish lawyers for Poles, Jewish lawyers for Jews, Irish lawyers for Irish. It should be to produce good lawyers for Americans and not to place First Amendment barriers against anyone.

Justice William O. Douglas, dissenting, DeFunis v. Odegaard, 416 U.S. 342 (1974).

Law/Lawyers

They have no lawyers among them, for they consider them as a sort of people whose profession it is to disguise matters.

Sir Thomas More

Utopia. Of Law and Magistrates

Law/Lawyers

Why may not that be the skull of a lawyer? Where be his quiddities now, his quillets, his cases, his tenures, and his tricks?

William Shakespeare

Hamlet, V, i, 104

Laziness

Laziness travels so slowly that poverty soon overtakes him.

Benjamin Franklin

Laziness

Middle Age is that perplexing time of life when we hear two voices calling us, one saying, "Why not?" and the other, "Why bother?"

Sydney J. Harris

Leaders/Leadership

Great leaders and dedicated followers make a winning team.

Author Unknown

Leaders/Leadership

A great nation is not led by a man who simply repeats the talk of the street-corners or the opinions of the newspapers. A nation is led by a man who hears more than those things; or who, rather, hearing those things, understands them better, unites them, puts them into a common meaning; speaks, not the rumors of the street, but a new principle for a new age; a man in whose ears the voices of the nation do not sound like the accidental and discordant notes that come from the voice of a mob, but concurrent and concordant like the united voices of a chorus, whose many meanings, spoken by melodious tongues, unite in his understanding in a single meaning and reveal to him a single vision, so that he can speak what no man else knows, the common meaning of the common voice. Such is the man who leads a great, free, democratic nation.

Woodrow Wilson, president of Princeton, address, "Abraham Lincoln: A Man of the People," Chicago, Illinois, February 12, 1909.—The Papers of Woodrow Wilson, ed. Arthur S. Link, vol. 19, p. 42 (1975).

Leaders/Leadership

An unstable pilot steers a leaking ship, and the blind is leading the blind straight to the pit. The ruler is like the ruled.

St. Jerome

Letter, 7

Leaders/Leadership

As we look over the list of the early leaders of the republic, Washington, John Adams, Hamilton, and others, we discern that they were all men who insisted upon being themselves and who refused to truckle to the people. With each succeeding generation, the growing demand of the people that its elective officials shall not lead but merely register the popular will has steadily undermined the independence of those who derive their power from popular election. The persistent refusal of the Adamses to sacrifice the integrity of their own intellectual and moral standards and values for the sake of winning public office or popular favor is another of the measuring rods by which we may measure the divergence of American life from its starting point.

James Truslow Adams, The Adams Family, p. 95 (1930).

Leaders/Leadership

Bad herdsmen ruin their flocks.

Homer

The Odyssey, XVII, 246

Leaders/Leadership

Cuius regio eius religio.

He who controls the area controls the religion.

Anonymous Latin Proverb

Leaders/Leadership

Great minds are to make others great. Their superiority is to be used, not to break the multitude to intellectual vassalage, not to establish over them a spiritual tyranny, but to rouse them from lethargy, and to aid them to judge for themselves.

William Ellery Channing

On the Elevation of the Laboring Classes, 1840.

Leaders/Leadership

He made the city [Athens], great as it was when he took it, the greatest and richest of all cities, and grew to be superior in power to kings and tyrants. Some of these actually appointed him guardian of their sons, but he did not make his estate a single drachma greater than it was when his father left it to him.

Plutarch, Plutarch's Lives, trans. Bernadotte Perrin, life of Pericles, vol. 3, p. 51 (1915).

Leaders/Leadership

He who governs should possess energy without fanaticism, principles without demagogy, severity without cruelty; he must neither be weak, not vacillating, nor, so to express it, must he be ashamed of his duty.

Napoleon Bonaparte

Leaders/Leadership

He who is the ruler of men takes non-action as his way and considers impartiality as his treasure. He sits upon the throne of non-action and rides upon the perfection of his officials.

Tung Chung-Shu

Ch'un-ch'iu fan-lu

Leaders/Leadership

He would lead must first himself be led. Who would be loved be capable of love. Beyond the utmost he receives, who claims the roof of power must have bowed. Any being honored, honor what's above. This know the men who leave the world their names.

Bayard Taylor

Leaders/Leadership

I light my candle from their torches.

Robert Burton

Leaders/Leadership

If you want to be comfortable—take an easy job. If you aspire to leadership, take off your coat.

Author Unknown

Leaders/Leadership

Let there be one man who has a city obedient to his will, and he might bring into existence the ideal polity about which the world is so incredulous.

Plato

The Republic, V, 502-B

Leaders/Leadership

Of the best rulers

The people (only) know that they exist;

The next best they love and praise;

The next they fear;

And the next they revile.

When they do not command the people's faith,

Some will lose faith in them,

And then they resort to oaths!

But (of the best) when their task is accomplished, their work done,

The people all remark, "We have done it ourselves."

Lao-Tzu,

The Wisdom of Laotse, trans. and ed. Lin Yutang, chapter 17, p. 114 (1948).

Leaders/Leadership

Some citizens are so good that nothing a leader can do will make them better. Others are so incorrigible that nothing can be done to improve them. But the great bulk of the people go with the moral tide of the moment. The leader must help create that tide.

Author unknown. Attributed to a nineteenth century Japanese philosopher by John W. Gardner, as quoted by Edward P Morgan in his syndicated column.—The Washington Post, September 29, 1970, p. A18.

Leaders/Leadership

The capacity and the will to rally men and women to a common purpose, and the character which will inspire confidence.

Montgomery

Leaders/Leadership

The first characteristic of the leader we seek must be a deep, great, and genuine sincerity. The sincerity I mean is that type of which the man himself is not conscious—it is there naturally—he just cannot help being sincere. Added to sincerity must be selflessness, by which I mean absolute devotion to the cause he serves with no thought of personal reward or aggrandizement. Then comes the ability to dominate, and finally to master, the events which encompass him. Once he fails in this respect, his leadership will become suspect—since he will lose the respect and confidence of those he leads.

Montgomery

Leaders/Leadership

The leader of a group is usually the individual who possesses the greatest number of desirable character traits or the individual who can make the greatest improvement in those traits through training and experience.

Bingham

Leaders/Leadership

The people may be made to follow a path of action, but they may not be made to understand it.

Confucius

The Confucian Analects, 8:9

Leaders/Leadership

The people turn to a benevolent rule as water flows downwards, and as wild beasts fly to the wilderness.

Mencius

Book IV, 1:10.2

Leaders/Leadership

The right of commanding is no longer an advantage transmitted by nature; like and inheritance, it is the fruit of labors, the price of courage.

Voltaire

Leaders/Leadership

There go the people. I must follow them, for I am their leader.

Attributed to Alexandre Ledru-Rollin, one of the leaders of the February Revolution of 1848 in France. James Michael Curley uses this quotation as an epigraph at the beginning of chapter 4 of his autobiography, I'd Do It Again, p. 44 (1957), and attributes it to a French Revolutionist.

Attribution to Gandhi of "I must follow the people for I am their leader" is made by Leon Howell, "The Delta Ministry," Christianity and Crisis, August 8, 1966, p. 192.Alvin R. Calman, Ledru-Rollin and the Second French Republic (Studies in History, Economics and Public Law vol. 103, no. 2), p. 374 (1922), says Ledru-Rollin's use of "I am their chief; I must follow them" is probably apocryphal.

Leaders/Leadership

There is nothing more difficult to take in hand, more perilous to conduct or more uncertain in its success, than to take the lead in the introduction of a new order of things.

Niccolo Machiavelli

The Prince, ch. 6

Leaders/Leadership

They should rule who are able to rule best.

Aristotle

Politics, II, 11

Leaders/Leadership

Though God hath raised me high, yet this I count the glory of my crown: that I have reigned with your loves.

Elizabeth I

The Golden Speech

Leaders/Leadership

To give the throne to another man would be easy; to find a man who shall benefit the kingdom is difficult.

Mencius

Book III, 1:4.10

Leaders/Leadership

We cannot all be masters.

William Shakespeare

Othello, I, I, 43

Leaders/Leadership

Ye call me chief, and ye do well to call him chief who, for twelve long years, has met upon the arena every shape of man or beast that the broad Empire of Rome could furnish and has never yet lowered his arm. And if there be one among you who can say that, ever, in public fight or private brawl, my actions did belie my tongue, let him step forth and say it. If there be three in all your throng dare face me on the bloody sand, let them come on! Yet I was not always thus, a hired butcher, a savage chief of still more savage men.

Elijah Kellogg, "Spartacus to the Gladiators."—Wilmot B. Mitchell, Elijah Kellogg: The Man and His Work, p. 206 (1903).This declamation was written by Kellogg when he was a student at Andover Theological Seminary in 1840-1843, and has been published elsewhere in books on public speaking and oratory.

Leaders/Leadership

You cannot be a leader, and ask other people to follow you, unless you know how to follow, too.

Speaker of the House Sam Rayburn.—The Leadership of Speaker Sam Rayburn, Collected Tributes of His Congressional Colleagues, p. 34 (1961). House Doc. 87-247."A compilation of tributes paid him in the Hall of the House of Representatives, June 12, 1961, and other pertinent material, to celebrate the occasion of his having served as Speaker twice as long as any of his predecessors in the history of the United States: Sixteen years and 273 days" (title page).

Leaders/Leadership

[Of Servius Galbe] He seemed more important than a private citizen while he was a private citizen, and in the opinion of all he was capable of rule—if he had not ruled.

Caius Cornelius Tacitus

Histories, I, 49

Leadership/Leaders

He led his regiment from behind—

He found it less exciting.

But when away his regiment ran,

His place was at the fore, O.

W. S. Gilbert

Leadership/Leaders

I must follow the people. Am I not their leader?

Benjamin Disraeli

Leadership/Leaders

If the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch.

The Bible (Matthew 15:14)

Leadership/Leaders

In all legislative assemblies, the greater the number composing them may be, the fewer will be the men who will in fact direct their proceedings.

Alexander Hamilton

Leadership/Leaders

It is frequently a misfortune to have very brilliant men in charge of affairs; they expect too much of ordinary men.

Thucydides

Leadership/Leaders

Reason and judgment are the qualities of a leader.

Tacitus

Leadership/Leaders

There go my people. I must find out where they are going so I can lead them.

Alexandre Ledru-Rollin

League Of Nations

I have loved but one flag and I can not share that devotion and give affection to the mongrel banner invented for a league.

Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, remarks in the Senate, August 12, 1919, Congressional Record, vol. 58, p. 3784.

League Of Nations

The program of the world's peace, therefore, is our program; and that program, the only possible program, as we see it, is this:

1. Open covenants of peace, openly arrived at, after which there shall be no private international understandings of any kind but diplomacy shall proceed always frankly and in the public view.

President Woodrow Wilson, first of the "Fourteen Points," address to a joint session of Congress, January 8, 1918.—The Messages and Papers of Woodrow Wilson, ed. Albert Shaw, vol. I, p. 468 (1924).This speech on war aims and peace terms laid the ground work for the proposal of a League of Nations.

Learning

A little learning is a dangerous thing;

Drink deep, or taste not the Picerian spring;

There shallow draughts intoxicate the brain,

And drinking largely sobers us again.

Alexander Pope

Learning

A little learning is a dangerous thing;

Drink deep, or taste not the Pierian spring.

Alexander Pope

Learning

Abandon learning and there will be no sorrow.

Lao Tzu

The Way of Lao Tzu 20

Learning

Alcuin was my name; learning I loved.

Alcuin

His Own Epitaph

Learning

Beware the man of one book.

St. Thomas Aquinas

Quoted by Isaac D'Israel in Curiosities of Literature

Learning

By identifying the new learning with heresy, you make orthodoxy synonymous with ignorance.

Desiderius Erasmus

Learning

Draw from others the lesson that may profit yourself.

Terence [Publius Terentius Afer]

Heauton Timoroumenos (The Self-Tormentor), 221

Learning

Extensive reading is a priceless treasure.

Mencius

Learning

Few men make themselves masters of the things they write or speak.

John Selden

Learning

He learned the arts of riding, fencing, gunnery,

And how to scale a fortress—or a nunnery.

George Gordon, Lord Byron

Learning

He not only overflowed with learning, but stood in the slop.

Sydney Smith

Learning

High knowledge and great strength are within the reach of every man who unflinchingly enacts his best.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Learning

I grow old ever learning many things.

Solon

Learning

I hear and I forget.

I see and I remember.

I do and I understand.

Chinese Philosophy

Learning

If a little knowledge is dangerous, where is a man who has so much as to be out of danger?

Thomas Henry Huxley

Learning

If a man withdraws his mind from the love of beauty, and applies it as sincerely to the love of the virtuous; if, in serving his parents, he can exert his utmost strength; if, in serving his prince, he can devote his life; if, in his intercourse with his friends, his words are sincere—although men say that he has not learned, I will certainly say that he has.

Confucius

The Confucian Analects 1:7

Learning

In ancient times, men learned with a view to their own improvement. Nowadays, men learn with a view to the approbation of others.

Confucius

The Confucian Analects, 14:25

Learning

It is surely harmful to souls to make it a heresy to believe what is proved.

Galileo Galilei

Learning

It [Poesy] was ever thought to have some participation of divineness, because it doth raise and erect the mind by submitting the shews of things to the desires of the mind.

Francis Bacon

The Advancement of Learning, II, iv, 2

Learning

Learned men are the cisterns of knowledge, not the fountainheads.

James Northcote

Learning

Learning is to the studious, and riches to the careful, as well as power to the bold, and heaven to the virtuous.

Benjamin Franklin

Learning

Learning makes a man fit company for himself as well as for others.

Author Unknown

Learning

Learning without thought is labor lost; thought without learning is perilous.

Confucius

Learning

Look to the essence of a thing, whether it be a point of doctrine, of practice, or of interpretation.

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

Meditations, VIII, 22

Learning

Much learning does not teach a man to have intelligence.

Heraclitus

Learning

Never learn to do anything: if you don't learn, you'll always find someone else to do it for you.

Mark Twain

Learning

No man is the wiser for his learning.

John Selden

Learning

One method of delivery alone remains to us; which is simply this: we must lead men to the particulars themselves; and their series and order; while men on their side must force themselves for awhile to lay their notions by and begin to familiarize themselves with facts.

Francis Bacon

Novum Organum, Aphorism., xxxvi.

Learning

Solon was under a delusion when he said that a man when he grows old may learn many things—for he can no more learn much than he can run much; youth is the time for any extraordinary toil.

Plato

The Republic, VII, 536-D

Learning

The great end of learning is nothing else but to seek for the lost mind.

Mencius

Book VI, 1:11.4

Learning

The man who has never been flogged has never been taught.

Menander

The Girl Who Gets Flogged, fragment 422

Learning

The Master said, 'To be fond of learning is to be near to knowledge. To practice with vigor is to be near to magnanimity. To possess the feeling of shame is to be near to energy.

'He who knows these three things, knows how to cultivate his own character. Knowing how to cultivate his own character, he knows how to govern other men. Knowing how to govern other men, he knows how to govern the kingdom with all its states and families.'

Confucius (551-479 B.C.)

The Doctrine of Mean (tr. Legge), Ch. XX, 10, 11

Learning

The renown which riches or beauty confer is fleeting and frail; mental excellence is splendid and lasting possession.

Sallust [Gaius Sallustius Crispus]

The War with Catiline, 1

Learning

The scars of others should teach us caution.

St. Jerome

Letter, 54

Learning

The scholar who cherishes the love of comfort is not fit to be deemed a scholar.

Confucius

Learning

The second half of a man's life is made up of nothing but the habits he has acquired during the first half.

Fyodor Dostoyevski

Learning

There are four chief obstacles in grasping truth, which hinder every man, however learned, and scarcely allow any one to win a clear title to learning, namely, submission to faulty and unworthy authority, influence of custom, popular prejudice, and concealment of our own ignorance accompanied by an ostentatious display of our knowledge.

Roger Bacon

Opus majus, trans. by R. B. Burke, 1928.

Learning

There are two modes of acquiring knowledge, namely by reasoning and experience. Reasoning draws a conclusion and makes us grant the conclusion, but does not make the conclusion certain, nor does it remove doubt so that the mind may rest on the intuition of truth, unless the mind discovers it by the path of experience.

Roger Bacon

Opus majus, trans. by R. B. Burke, 1928.

Learning

We can learn even from our enemies.

Ovid [Publius Ovidius Naso]

Metamorphoses, IV, 428

Learning

We see then how far the monuments of wit and learning are more durable than the monuments of power, or of the hands. For have not the verses of Homer continued twenty-five hundred years or more, without the loss of a syllable or letter; during which time infinite palaces, temples, castles, cities have been decayed and demolished?

Francis Bacon

Learning

Where there is much desire to learn, there of necessity will be much arguing, much writing, many opinions; for opinion in good men is but knowledge in the making.

John Milton

Areopagitica

Learning

Whoso neglects learning in his youth, loses the past and is dead for the future.

Euripides (485-406 B.C.)

Fragments, 927

Learning

With books we stand on the shoulders of giants.

John Locke

Learning

Would you know politics?—read history.

Mencius

Learning

Yellow gold has its price; learning is priceless.

Mencius

Learning

[When asked late in life why he was studying geometry] If I should not be learning now, when should I be?

Lacydes

From Diogenes Laertius, Lacydes, sec V

Legislators

A plural legislature is as necessary to good government as a single executive. It is not enough that your legislature should be numerous; it should also be divided. Numbers alone are not a sufficient barrier against the impulses of passion, the combinations of interest, the intrigues of faction, the haste of folly, or the spirit of encroachment. One division should watch over and controul the other, supply its wants, correct its blunders, and cross its designs, should they be criminal or erroneous. Wisdom is the specific quality of the legislature, grows out of the number of the body, and is made up of the portions of sense and knowledge which each member brings to it.

Benjamin Franklin, "Queries and Remarks Respecting Alterations in the Constitution of Pennsylvania," The Writings of Benjamin Franklin, ed. Albert H. Smith, vol. 10, pp. 55-56 (1907, reprinted 1970).This section of his "Queries and Remarks" is a rearrangement and slight rewording of a portion of an anonymous article, "Hints for the Members of the Convention," Federal Gazette, November 3, 1789, p. 2, which had been reprinted from the Carlisle Gazette, October 21, 1789.

Legislators

Great constitutional provisions must be administered with caution. Some play must be allowed for the joints of the machine, and it must be remembered that legislatures are ultimate guardians of the liberties and welfare of the people in quite as great a degree as the courts.

Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railway Company v. May, 194 U.S. 270 (1904).

Legislators

He [Oliver Cromwell] in a furious manner, bid the Speaker leave his chair; told the house "That they had sat long enough, unless they had done more good; and that it was not fit they should sit as a parliament any longer, and desired them to go away."

Oliver Cromwell, dissolving Parliament, April 20, 1653, as reported by Bulstrode Whitlocke.—Cobbett's Parliamentary History of England, from the Norman Conquest, in 1066, to the Year 1803, vol. 3, col. 1383 (1808).There is no official version of this speech because the journal entry was expunged by order of Parliament, January 7, 1659. The version most often quoted is that of Thomas Carlyle, who combined three original sources, including Whitlocke, to obtain an "authentic, moderately conceivable account": "You have sat too long here for any good you have been doing lately…. Depart, I say; and let us have done with you. In the name of God,—go!"—Thomas Carlyle, Oliver Cromwell's Letters and Speeches, vol. 3, part 7, pp. 34-35 (1897).

On May 7, 1940, Leopold Amery quoted the Carlyle version (omitting "lately") in the House of Commons, urging Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain to resign.—Winston Churchill, The Gathering Storm (vol. 1 of The Second World War), p. 659 (1948).

Senator George J. Mitchell quoted the Carlyle version on December 23, 1982.—Congressional Record, vol. 128, no. 17, p. S16068 (daily ed.).

Legislators

I did not obey your instructions. No. I conformed to the instructions of truth and nature, and maintained your interest, against your opinions, with a constancy that became me. A representative worthy of you ought to be a person of stability. I am to look, indeed, to your opinions,—but to such opinions as you and I must have five years hence. I was not to look to the flash of the day. I knew that you chose me, in my place, along with others, to be a pillar of the state, and not a weathercock on the top of the edifice, exalted for my levity and versatility, and of no use but to indicate the shiftings of every fashionable gale.

Edmund Burke, speech at Bristol, previous to the election, September 6, 1780.—The Works of the Right Honorable Edmund Burke, vol. 2, p. 382 (1899).

Legislators

In all forms of government the people is the true legislator.

Edmund Burke, "Tract on the Popery Laws," chapter 3, part I, The Works of the Right Honorable Edmund Burke, vol. 6, p. 320 (1899).

Legislators

Lawyers are apt to speak as though the legislature were omnipotent, as they do not require to go beyond its decisions. It is, of course, omnipotent in the sense that it can make whatever laws it pleases, inasmuch as a law means any rule which has been made by the legislature. But from the scientific point of view, the power of the legislature is of course strictly limited. It is limited, so to speak, both from within and from without; from within, because the legislature is the product of a certain social condition, and determined by whatever determines the society; and from without, because the power of imposing laws is dependent upon the instinct of subordination, which is itself limited. If a legislature decided that all blue-eyed babies should be murdered, the preservation of blue-eyed babies would be illegal; but legislators must go mad before they could pass such a law, and subjects be idiotic before they could submit to it.

Leslie Stephen, The Science of Ethics, p. 145 (1882).

Legislators

Legislators represent people, not trees or acres. Legislators are elected by voters, not farms or cities or economic interests.

Chief Justice Earl Warren, Reynolds v. Sims, 377 U.S. 562 (1964).

Legislators

No man's life, liberty or property are safe while the Legislature is in session.

Saying quoted by Gideon J. Tucker, Surrogate, in 1866 report of the final accounting in the estate of A. B. New York Surrogate Reports, I Tucker (N.Y. Surr.) 249 (1866).

Legislators

Parliament will train you to talk; and above all things to hear, with patience, unlimited quantities of foolish talk.

Thomas Carlyle, Latter-Day Pamphlets, no. 5, p. 33 (1850).

Legislators

That a parliament, especially a parliament with newspaper reporters firmly established in it, is an entity which by its very nature cannot do work, but can do talk only.

Thomas Carlyle, Latter-Day Pamphlets, no. 6, pp. 14-15 (1850).

Legislators

The commons, faithful to their system, remained in a wise and masterly inactivity.

Sir James Mackintosh, Vindiciae Gallicae, section 1, p. 14 (1838). Originally published in 1791.The phrase "a wise and masterly inactivity" was used in America by Representative John Randolph of Roanoke: "We ought to observe that practice which is the hardest of all—especially for young physicians—we ought to throw in no medicine at all—to abstain—to observe a wise and masterly inactivity."—Register of Debates in Congress, January 25, 1828, vol. 4, col. 1170.

The phrase was mostly associated, however, with John C. Calhoun, who used it during the nullification crisis and later during the Oregon controversy in 1843. While vice president, Calhoun spoke to the people of South Carolina by addressing the legislature at the close of the session of 1831: "If the Government should be taught thereby, that the highest wisdom of a State is, 'a wise and masterly inactivity,'—an invaluable blessing will be conferred."—The Works of John C. Calhoun, vol. 6, p. 143 (1859). See Hans Sperber and Travis Trittschuh, American Political Terms, pp. 263-64 (1962).

Legislators

The legislator is an indispensable guardian of our freedom. It is true that great executives have played a powerful role in the development of civilization, but such leaders appear sporadically, by chance. They do not always appear when they are most needed. The great executives have given inspiration and push to the advancement of human society, but it is the legislator who has given stability and continuity to that slow and painful progress.

Senator J. William Fulbright, "The Legislator," lecture delivered at the University of Chicago in 1946.—The Works of the Mind, ed. for the University's Committee on Social Thought by Robert B. Heywood, p. 119 (1947).

Legislators

The legislature, like the executive, has ceased to be even the creature of the people: it is the creature of pressure groups, and most of them, it must be manifest, are of dubious wisdom and even more dubious honesty. Laws are no longer made by a rational process of public discussion; they are made by a process of blackmail and intimidation, and they are executed in the same manner. The typical lawmaker of today is a man wholly devoid of principle—a mere counter in a grotesque and knavish game…. If the right pressure could be applied to him he would be cheerfully in favor of chiropractic, astrology or cannibalism.

H. L. Mencken, "The Library," The American Mercury, May 1930, p. 123.

This view of Mencken's comes from his book review of The Dissenting Opinions of Mr Justice Holmes (1930).

Legislators

Two deputies, one of whom is a radical, have more in common than two radicals, one of whom is a deputy.

(Il y a moins de difference entre deux deputes dont l'un est revolutionnaire et l'autre ne l'est pas, qu'entre deux revolutionnaires, dont l'un est depute et l'autre ne l'est pas.)

Robert de Jouvenel, La Republique des Camarades, part 1, chapter 1, p. 17 (1914).

Leisure

14. We are born once and cannot be born twice, but for all time must be no more. But you, who are not master of tomorrow, postpone your happiness: life is wasted in procrastination and each of us dies without allowing himself leisure.

Epicurus (341-270 B.C.)

Fragments

Leisure

Leisure with dignity.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

De Oratore, II, 62

Leisure

Leisure without books is death, and burial of a man alive.

Seneca

Leisure/Retirement

I would not exchange my leisure hours for all the wealth in the world.

Comte de Mirabeau

Leisure/Retirement

If the soul has food for study and learning, nothing is more delightful than an old age of leisure….Leisure consists in all those virtuous activities by which a man grows morally, intellectually, and spiritually. It is that which makes a life worth living.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

Leisure/Retirement

Increased means and increased leisure are the two civilizers of man.

Benjamin Disraeli

Leisure/Retirement

One ought, every day at least, to hear a little song, read a good poem, see a fine picture, and, if it were possible, to speak a few reasonable words.

Johann W. von Goethe

Leisure/Retirement

The gradually declining years are among the sweetest in a man's life.

Seneca

Liberalism/Liberals

Take a straw and throw it up into the air—you may see by that which way the wind is.

John Selden

Table Talk. Libels

Liberalism/Liberals

The radical of one century is the conservative of the next. The radical invents the views. When he has worn them out the conservative adopts them.

Mark Twain

Liberals

A liberal is a person whose interests aren't at stake at the moment.

Willis Player, quoted by The Washington Post, Potomac magazine, November 15, 1972, p. 12. Unverified.

Liberals

Ultraliberalism today translates into a whimpering isolationism in foreign policy, a mulish obstructionism in domestic policy, and a pusillanimous pussyfooting on the critical issue of law and order.

Vice President Spiro T. Agnew, speech before Illinois Republican meeting, Springfield, Illinois, September 10, 1970.—Collected Speeches of Spiro Agnew, p. 193 (1971).

Liberals

What bothers me about today's "liberals" is this: through the ages, those called liberal fought to take the power away from the kings and the emperors and to give it to the parliaments; now it is the "liberals" who are anxious to give more and more power to the executive, at the expense of the legislative branch.

Burton K. Wheeler, Yankee from the West, chapter 19, p. 428 (1962). Wheeler served in Congress 1923-1947.

Liberty

Despotism can no more exist in a nation until the liberty of the press be destroyed than night can happen before the sun is set.

Charles Caleb Colton (1780-1832)

The Lacon (1829)

Liberty

I must have liberty

Withal, as large a charter as the wind,

To blow on whom I please.

William Shakespeare

As You Like It, II, vii, 47

Liberty

Abstract Liberty, like other mere abstractions, is not to be found. Liberty inheres in some sensible object; and every nation has formed to itself some favorite point, which by way of eminence becomes the criterion of their happiness.

Edmund Burke

Speech on Conciliation with America, March 22, 1775.

Liberty

American liberty is a religion. It is a thing of the spirit. It is an aspiration on the part of the people for not alone a free life but a better life.

Wendell Willkie

Liberty

And liberty plucks justice by the nose.

William Shakespeare

Measure for Measure, I, iii, 29

Liberty

And steal one day out of thy life to live.

Abraham Cowley (1618-1667)

"Ode Upon Liberty" (1663)

Liberty

Arbitrary power is most easily established on the ruins of liberty abused to licentiousness.

George Washington

Liberty

As the principle of liberty is better understood, a broader protest is made on behalf on women.

Margaret Fuller

Liberty

But what is liberty without wisdom, and without virtue? It is the greatest of all possible evils; for it is folly, vice, and madness, without tuition or restraint.

Edmund Burke

Liberty

By liberty I mean the assurance that every man shall be protected in doing what he believes is his duty, against the influence of authority and majorities, custom and opinion.

Lord Acton (John E. E. Dalberg)

The History of Freedom in Antiquity, 1877.

Liberty

Corrupted freemen are the worst of slaves.

David Garrick (1717-1779)

Prologue, The Gamesters

Liberty

Eternal Spirit of the Chainless Mind!

Brightest in dungeons, Liberty! thou art,

For there thy habitation is the heart—

The heart which love of thee alone can

bind.

Lord Byron

The Prisoner of Chillon.

Liberty

Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty—power is ever stealing from the many to the few…. The hand entrusted with power becomes…the necessary enemy of the people. Only by continual oversight can the democrat in office be prevented from hardening into a despot: only by unintermitted Agitation can a people be kept sufficiently awake to principle not to let liberty be smothered in material prosperity.

Wendell Phillips, speech in Boston, Massachusetts, January 28, 1852.—Speeches Before the Massachusetts Anti-Slavery Society, p. 13 (1853).The memorable and oft-quoted phrase, "eternal vigilance is the price of liberty," was not in quotation marks in the printed edition of this speech. The Home Book of Quotations, ed. Burton Stevenson, 9th ed., p. 1106 (1964), notes that "It has been said that Mr. Phillips was quoting Thomas Jefferson, but in a letter dated 14 April, 1879, Mr. Phillips wrote: ' "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty" has been attributed to Jefferson, but no one has yet found it in his works or elsewhere.' It has also been attributed to Patrick Henry."

Liberty

For the saddest epitaph which can be carved in memory of a vanished liberty is that it was lost because its possessors failed to stretch forth a saving hand while yet there was time.

Justice George Sutherland, dissenting, Associated Press v. National Labor Belations Board, 301 U.S. 141 (1938).

Liberty

For what is liberty but the unhampered translation of will into act.

Dante (or Durante) Alighieri (1265-1321)

Letters, 6, 1311

Liberty

God grants liberty only to those who love it, and are always ready to guard and defend it.

Daniel Webster

Liberty

God grants liberty only to those who love it, and are always ready to guard and defend it.

Senator Daniel Webster, remarks in the Senate, June 3, 1834.—The Writings and Speeches of Daniel Webster; vol. 7, p. 47 (1903).

Liberty

God who gave us life gave us liberty. Can the liberties of a nation be secure when we have removed a conviction that these liberties are the gift of God? Indeed I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just, that his justice cannot sleep forever. Commerce between master and slave is despotism.' Nothing is more certainly written in the book of fate than that these people are to be free. Establish the law for educating the common people. This it is the business of the State to effect and on a general plan.'

Thomas Jefferson. Inscription on the northeast quadrant of the Jefferson Memorial, Washington, D.C., selected by the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Commission, from several writings of Jefferson's. The inscription omits words without ellipses."Draft of Instructions to the Virginia Delegates in the Continental Congress," The Papers of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Julian P Boyd, vol. I, p. 135 (1950).

"Notes on the State of Virginia," query 18, The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Paul L. Ford, vol. 3, p. 267 (1894). Ibid.,p.266."Autobiography," in The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Andrew A. Lipscomb, vol. 1, p. 72 (1903).

Letter to George Wythe, August 13, 1786.—The Papers of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Julian P. Boyd, vol. 10, p. 245 (1954).'Letter to George Washington, January 4, 1785 (i.e., 1786).—The Papers of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Julian P. Boyd, vol. 9, p. 151 (1954).

Liberty

Government has no right to control individual liberty beyond what is necessary to the safety and well-being of society. Such is the boundary which separates the power of the government and the liberty of the citizen or subject in the political state.

John C. Calhoun

Speech, Senate, June 27, 1848.

Liberty

He goes seeking liberty, which is so dear, as he knows who for it renounces life.

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy. Purgatorio, canto I, 7

Liberty

He that would make his own liberty secure must guard even his enemy from oppression.

Thomas Paine

Liberty

He that would make his own liberty secure, must guard even his enemy from oppression; for if he violates this duty, he establishes a precedent that will reach to himself.

Thomas Paine, "Dissertation on First Principles of Government," The Writings of Thomas Paine, ed. Moncure D. Conway, vol. 3, p. 277 (1895). Originally published in 1795.

Liberty

I would have thee gone;

And yet no further than a wanton's bird,

Who lets it hop a little from her hand,

Like a poor prisoner in his twisted gyves,

And with a silk thread plucks it back again,

So loving-jealous of his liberty.

William Shakespeare

Romeo and Juliet, II, ii, 176

Liberty

I would rather be exposed to the inconveniencies attending too much liberty than those attending too small a degree of it.

Thomas Jefferson, letter to Archibald Stuart, December 23, 1791.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Paul L. Ford, vol. 5, p. 409 (1895).

Liberty

I would rather belong to a poor nation that was free than to a rich nation that had ceased to be in love with liberty. But we shall not be poor if we love liberty, because the nation that loves liberty truly sets every man free to do his best and be his best, and that means the release of all the splendid energies of a great people who think for themselves. A nation of employees cannot be free any more than a nation of employers can be.

President Woodrow Wilson, address on Latin American policy to the fifth annual convention of the Southern Commercial Congress, Mobile, Alabama, October 27, 1913.—The Papers of Woodrow Wilson, ed. Arthur S. Link, vol. 28, p. 451 (1978).The first sentence is inscribed on a plaque in the stairwell of the pedestal of the Statue of Liberty.

Liberty

In every age its (liberty's) progress has been beset by its natural enemies: by ignorance and superstition, by lust of conquest and by love of ease, by the strong man's craving for power, and the poor man's craving for food.

Lord Acton (John E. E. Dalberg)

The History of Freedom in Antiquity, 1877.

Liberty

Is life so dear, or peace so sweet, as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? Forbid it, Almighty God! I know not what course others may take, but as for me, give me liberty, or give me death!

Patrick Henry

Liberty

Is the relinquishment of the trial by jury and the liberty of the press necessary for your liberty? Will the abandonment of your most sacred rights tend to the security of your liberty? Liberty, the greatest of all earthly blessings—give us that precious jewel, and you may take every thing else!….Guard with jealous attention the public liberty. Suspect every one who approaches that jewel.

Patrick Henry, speech to the Virginia Convention, Richmond, Virginia, June 5, 1788.—The Debates in the Several State Conventions on the Adoption of the Federal Constitution, ed. Jonathan Elliot, vol. 3, p. 45 (1836, reprinted 1937).

Liberty

It behoves every man who values liberty of conscience for himself, to resist invasions of it in the case of others; or their case may, by change of circumstances, become his own.

President Thomas Jefferson, letter to Benjamin Rush, April 21, 1803.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Paul L. Ford, vol. 8, p. 224, footnote I (1897).

Liberty

It is a great liberty to be able not to sin; it is the greatest liberty to be unable to sin.

St. Augustine

Liberty

It is more dangerous that even a guilty person should be punished without the forms of law than that he should escape.

Thomas Jefferson

Liberty

It is the common fate of the indolent to see their rights become a prey to the active. The condition upon which God hath given liberty to man is eternal vigilance; which condition if he break, servitude is at once the consequence of his crime and the punishment of his guilt.

John Philpot Curran, "Election of Lord Mayor of Dublin," speech before the Privy Council, July 10, 1790.—The Speeches of the Right Honorable John Philpot Curran, ed. Thomas Davis, pp. 94-95 (1847).An early use of the words "eternal vigilance." Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, at least, lists this as the source of "eternal vigilance is the price of liberty" (15th ed., p. 397, footnote 8, 1980). But see also No. 1073.

Liberty

Let the pulpit resound with the doctrines and sentiments of religious liberty. Let us hear the dangers of thralldom to our consciences from ignorance, extreme poverty, and dependence; in short, from civil and political slavery. Let us see delineated before us the true map of man. Let us hear the dignity of his nature, and the noble rank he holds among the works of God—that consenting to slavery is a sacrilegious breach of trust, as offensive in the sight of God as it is derogatory from our own honor or interest or happiness—and that God Almighty has promulgated from heaven liberty, peace, and goodwill to man!

John Adams

Dissertation on the Canon and the Feudal Law, 1765.

Liberty

Liberté, égalité, fraternité.

Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790)

Attributed, suggested to French leaders as a slogan

Liberty

Liberty alone demands, for its realization, the limitation of the public authority, for liberty is the only object which benefits all alike, and provokes no sincere opposition.

Lord Acton (John E. E. Dalberg)

Nationality. The Home and Foreign Review, July, 1862.

Reprinted in Essays on Freedom and Power.

Liberty

Liberty and good government do not exclude each other; and there are excellent reasons why they should go together. Liberty is not a means to a higher political end. It is itself the highest political end.

Lord Acton (John E. E. Dalberg)

The History of Freedom in Antiquity, 1877.

Liberty

Liberty cannot be preserved without a general knowledge among the people.

John Adams

Dissertation on the Canon and the Feudal Law, 1765.

Liberty

Liberty consists in the power to do anything that does not injure others; accordingly, the exercise of the rights of man has no limits except those that secure to the other members of society the enjoyment of these same rights. These limits may be determined only by law.

France (Official and semi-official)

Declarations of the Rights of Man and Citizen, National Assembly (1789), Art. 4

Liberty

Liberty exists in proportion to wholesome restraint.

Daniel Webster

Liberty

Liberty is the only thing you cannot have unless you are willing to give it to others.

William White

Liberty

Liberty lies in the hearts of men and women; when it dies there, no constitution, no law, no court can save it; no constitution, no law, no court can even do much to help it…

The spirit of liberty is the spirit which is not too sure that it is right; the spirit of liberty is the spirit which seeks to understand the minds of other men and women; the spirit of liberty is the spirit which weighs their interests alongside its own without bias; the spirit of liberty remembers that not even a sparrow falls to earth unheeded; the spirit of liberty is the spirit of Him who, near two thousand years ago, taught mankind that lesson it has never learned, but has never quite forgotten; that there may be a kingdom where the least shall be heard and considered side by side with the greatest.

Learned Hand, "The Spirit of Liberty," speech at an "I Am an American Day" ceremony, Central Park, New York City, May 21, 1944.—Hand, The Spirit of Liberty, 3d ed., enl., ed. Irving Dilliard, p. 190 (1960).

Liberty

Liberty means responsibility. That is why most men dread it.

George Bernard Shaw, "Maxims for Revolutionists," appendix 2 to Man and Superman, in The Collected Works of Bernard Shaw, vol. 10, p. 218 (1930).

Liberty

Liberty to every man to speak, write, print, and publish his opinions without having his writings subject to any censorship or inspection before their publication, and to worship as he pleases.

France (Official and semi-official)

Constitution (1791)

Liberty

Liberty will not descent to a people; a people must raise themselves to liberty; it is a blessing that must be earned before it can be enjoyed.

Charles Caleb Colton (1780-1832)

The Lacon (1829)

Liberty

Liberty, next to religion, has been the motive of good deeds and the common pretext of crime, from the sowing of the seed at Athens, two thousand four hundred and sixty years ago, until the ripened harvest was gathered by men of our race.

Lord Acton (John E. E. Dalberg)

The History of Freedom in Antiquity, 1877.

Liberty

Liberty, when it begins to take root, is a plant of rapid growth.

George Washington

Liberty

Liberty—precious boon of Heaven—is meek and reasonable. She admits, that she belongs to all—to the high and the low; the rich and the poor; the black and the white—and, that she belongs to them all equally…. But true liberty acknowledges and defends the equal rights of all men, and all nations.

Representative Gerrit Smith, remarks in the House, June 27, 1854, Congressional Globe, vol. 23, Appendix, p. 1016.

Liberty

Men are qualified for civil liberty in exact proportion to their disposition to put moral chains upon their own appetites,—in proportion as their love to justice is above their rapacity,—in proportion as their soundness and sobriety of understanding is above their vanity and presumption,—in proportion as they are more disposed to listen to the counsels of the wise and good, in preference to the flattery of knaves. Society cannot exist, unless a controlling power upon will and appetite be placed somewhere; and the less of it there is within, the more there must be without. It is ordained in the eternal constitution of things, that men of intemperate minds cannot be free. Their passions forge their fetters.

Edmund Burke, "Letter to a Member of the National Assembly," 1791.—The Works of the Right Honorable Edmund Burke, vol. 4, pp. 51-52 (1899).

Liberty

One of the greatest blessings we enjoy, one of the greatest blessings a people can enjoy, is liberty; but every good in this life has its alloy of evil; licentiousness is the alloy of liberty; it is an ebullition, and excrescence; it is a speck upon the eye of the political body, which I can never touch but with a gentle, with a trembling hand, lest I destroy the body, lest I injure the eye upon which it is apt to appear.

Philip Dormer Stanhope,

Fourth Earl of Chesterfield

Miscellaneous Works, Vol. IV, 1779.

Liberty

Only in states in which the power of the people is supreme has liberty any abode.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

De republica, 1, c. 50 B.C.

Liberty

Other liberties are held under governments, but liberty of opinion keeps governments themselves in due subjection to their duties.

Thomas Erskine (1750-1823)

Defense of Thomas Paine (December 20, 1792)

Liberty

People do not understand the liberty of majorities. The will of a majority is the will of a rabble. Progressive democracy is incompatible with liberty.

John C. Calhoun

Jenkins, Life of John Caldwell Calhoun, p. 453.

Liberty

Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof.

The Bible, Leviticus 25:10."In a letter written by a committee of the Pennsylvania Provincial Assembly, 1 Nov., 1751, ordering a bell for the tower of the new State House, it was directed that this quotation from the Bible should be inscribed around it 'well-shaped in large letters.' "—The Home Book of Quotations, 10th ed., ed. Burton Stevenson, pp. 1104-5 (1967).

The bell was ordered to celebrate fifty years of William Penn's Charter of Privileges. Penn left England in 1699 to return to America, where he drew up a document known as the Charter of Privileges, which was confirmed by the Assembly on October 28, 1701, and "remained substantially the fundamental law of Pennsylvania until 1776."— [Federal] Writer's Program, Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania: A Guide to the Keystone State, p. 30 (1940). The verse above is more fitting for a fiftieth anniversary than it appears, for it begins: "And ye shall hallow the fiftieth year—This bell, known as the Liberty Bell since about 1839, was rung July 8, 1776, with other church bells, announcing the adoption of the Declaration of Independence. The bell may be seen in Liberty Bell Pavilion, just north of Independence Hall in Philadelphia.

These words are also inscribed on a plaque in the stairwell of the pedestal of the Statue of Liberty.

Liberty

So every bondman in his own hand bears

The power to canel his captivity.

William Shakespeare

Julius Caesar, I, iii, 101

Liberty

That the greatest security of the people, against the encroachments and usurpations of their superiors, is to keep the Spirit of Liberty constantly awake, is an undeniable truth.

Edmund Burke, "A Free Briton's Advice to the Free Citizens of Dublin," no. 2, 1748.—The Early Life, Correspondence and Writings of the Rt. Hon. Edmund Burke, p. 338 (1923).

Liberty

The basis of a democratic state is liberty.

Aristotle

Liberty

The condition upon which God hath given liberty to man is eternal vigilance; which condition if he break, servitude is at once the consequence of his crime, and the punishment of his guilt.

John Philpot Curran (1750-1817)

Speech "Upon the Right of Election of Lord Mayor of Dublin" (July 10, 1790)

Liberty

The contest, for ages, has been to rescue Liberty from the grasp of executive power.

Senator Daniel Webster, speech in the Senate, May 27, 1834, on President Andrew Jackson's protest.—The Works of Daniel Webster, 10th ed., vol. 4, p. 133 (1857).

Liberty

The defendants' objections to the evidence obtained by wire-tapping must, in my opinion, be sustained. It is, of course, immaterial where the physical connection with the telephone wires leading into the defendants' premises was made. And it is also immaterial that the intrusion was in aid of law enforcement. Experience should teach us to be most on our guard to protect liberty when the Government's purposes are beneficent. Men born to freedom are naturally alert to repel invasion of their liberty by evil-minded rulers. The greatest dangers to liberty lurk in insidious encroachment by men of zeal, well-meaning but without understanding.

Justice Louis D. Brandeis, dissenting, Olmstead v. United States, 277 U.S. 479 (1928).

The last sentence is one of many quotations inscribed on Cox Corridor II, a first floor House corridor, U.S. Capitol.

Liberty

The Democracy of today hold the liberty of one man to be absolutely nothing, when in conflict with another man's right of property. Republicans, on the contrary, are for both the man and the dollar; but in cases of conflict, the man before the dollar.

Abraham Lincoln, letter to Henry L. Pierce and others, April 6, 1859.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P. Basler, vol. 3, p. 375 (1953).

Liberty

The die was now cast; I had passed the Rubicon. Swim or sink, live or die, survive or perish with my country was my unalterable determination.

John Adams

Liberty

The distinguishing part of our Constitution is its liberty. To preserve that liberty inviolate seems the particular duty and proper trust of a member of the House of Commons. But the liberty, the only liberty, I mean is a liberty connected with order: that not only exists along with order and virtue, but which cannot exist at all without them. It inheres in good and steady government, as in its substance and vital principle.

Edmund Burke, speech at his arrival at Bristol, October 13, 1774.—The Works of the Right Honorable Edmund Burke, vol. 2, p. 87 (1899).

Liberty

The fundamental source of all your errors, sophisms, and false reasonings, is a total ignorance of the natural rights of mankind. Were you once to become acquainted with these, you could never entertain a thought, that all men are not, by nature, entitled to a parity of privileges. You would be convinced, that natural liberty is a gift of the beneficent Creator, to the whole human race; and that civil liberty is founded in that; and cannot be wrested from any people, without the most manifest violation of justice. Civil liberty is only natural liberty, modified and secured by the sanctions of civil society. It is not a thing, in its own nature, precarious and dependent on human will and caprice; but it is conformable to the constitution of man, as well as necessary to the well-being of society.

Alexander Hamilton, "The Farmer Refuted," The Works of Alexander Hamilton, ed. John C. Hamilton, vol. 2, p. 61 (1850).

Liberty

The God who gave us life, gave us liberty at the same time.

Thomas Jefferson

Liberty

The history of liberty is a history of resistance. The history of liberty is a history of the limitation of governmental power, not the increase of it.

Woodrow Wilson, governor of New Jersey, address to the New York Press Club, New York City, September 9, 1912.—The Papers of Woodrow Wilson, ed. Arthur S. Link, vol. 25, p. 124 (1978).

Liberty

The law of liberty tends to abolish the reign of race over race, of faith over faith, of class over class. It is not the realization of a political ideal: it is the discharge of a moral obligation.

Lord Acton (John E. E. Dalberg)

Letter to Mary Gladston, April 24, 1881

Liberty

The men of the future will yet fight their way to many a liberty that we do not even mIss.

Max Stirner ( [Johann] Kaspar Schmidt), The Ego and His Own, trans. Steven T. Byington, ed. James J. Martin, part 1, chapter 2, p. 127 (1973). Originally published in 1845.

Liberty

The people are the only sure reliance for the preservation of our liberty.

Thomas Jefferson

Liberty

The people never give up their liberties but under some delusion.

Edmund Burke

Speech, 1784.

Liberty

The struggle between liberty and authority is the most conspicuous feature in the portions of history with which we are earliest familiar, particularly in that of Greece, Rome, and England.

John Stuart Mill, On Liberty, ed. David Spitz, chapter 1, p. 3 (1975). Originally published in 1859.

Liberty

The tree of liberty must be refreshed from time to time with the blood of patriots and tyrants. It is it's natural manure.

Thomas Jefferson, letter to William Stephens Smith, November 13, 1787.—The Papers of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Julian P Boyd, vol. 12, p. 356 (1955).A related idea was later expressed by Bertrand Barere de Vieuzac in a speech to the French national assembly, January 16, 1793: "L'arbre de la liberte…croit lorsqu'il est arrose du sang de toute espece de tyrans (The tree of liberty grows only when watered by the blood of tyrants)," Archives Parliamentaires de 1787 a 1860, vol. 57, p. 368 (1900).

And much earlier Tortullian had said: "Plures efficimur quotiens metimur a vobis; semen est sanguis Christianorum (We multiply whenever we are mown down by you; the blood of Christians is seed)," Apology, trans. T. R. Glover, pp. 226-27 (1931).

Liberty

The true danger is, when liberty is nibbled away, for expedients, and by parts.

Edmund Burke

Liberty

The United States appear to be destined by Providence to plague America with misery in the name of liberty.

Attributed to Simon Bolivar. Unverified.

Liberty

The world has never had a good definition of the word liberty, and the American people, just now, are much in want of one. We all declare for liberty; but in using the same word we do not all mean the same thing. With some the word liberty may mean for each man to do as he pleases with himself, and the product of his labor; while with others the same word may mean for some men to do as they please with other men, and the product of other men's labor. Here are two, not only different, but incompatable things, called by the same name—liberty. And it follows that each of the things is, by the respective parties, called by two different and incompatable names—liberty and tyranny.

President Abraham Lincoln, address at sanitary fair, Baltimore, Maryland, April 18, 1864.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P. Basler, vol. 7, pp. 301-2 (1953).

Liberty

Then, Sir, from these six capital sources; of descent; of form of government; of religion in the Northern provinces; of manners in the Southern; of education; of the remoteness of situation from the first mover of Government; from all these causes a fierce spirit of liberty has grown up.

Edmund Burke

Speech on Conciliation with America, March 22, 1775.

Liberty

There is a just God who presides over the destinies of nations, and who will raise up friends to fight our battles for us. The battle, sir, is not to the strong alone; it is to the vigilant, the active, the brave…. It is vain, sir, to extenuate the matter. Gentlemen may cry, peace, peace—but there is no peace. The war is actually begun! The next gale that sweeps from the north will bring to our ears the clash of resounding arms! Our brethren are already in the field! Why stand we here idle? What is it that gentlemen wish? What would they have? Is life so dear, or peace so sweet, as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? Forbid it, Almighty God—I know not what course others may take; but as for me, give me liberty, or give me death!

Patrick Henry, speech to the Virginia Convention, Richmond, Virginia, March 23, 1775.—William Wirt, Sketches of the Life and Character of Patrick Henry, 9th ed., pp. 141-42 (1836, reprinted 1970). The Biblical allusion is from Jeremiah 6:14."While there is no doubt as to the general effect of Henry's speech, questions as to its actual wording are not so easily disposed of. Not only is there no manuscript copy of the oration, there is no stenographic report…. It was not until some forty years later that William Wirt first reprinted a reconstruction of Henry's oration. In the absence of contemporary written information" there was much criticism of Wirt's text. Wirt collected much of the information for his biography of Patrick Henry "when many of Henry's auditors at St. John's [church] were still in their clear-minded fifties or sixties." Wirt collected information from "intelligent and reliable" auditors, including John Tyler, Judge St. George Tucker, and Edmund Randolph. "Wirt's text was based on a few very helpful sources plus many bits of information. He had ample proof for certain burning phrases…a remarkable resemblance to Henry's other speeches during that period," the fact that the speech conforms to others in "oratorical style and technique, even in the use of Biblical quotations or analogies. Of course, Wirt may have used fragments" from earlier speeches for the reconstruction. "Yet the information on the text as a whole is more precise than for many other great speeches in history."—Robert Douthat Meade, Patrick Henry, Practical Revolutionary, vol. 2, pp. 38-40 (1969).

"I can find no evidence that Patrick Henry's 'Give me liberty, or give me death' went ringing round the country in 1775, when he thus burst forth to the Virginia delegates, or in fact that it was quoted at all until after William Wa's official life in 1817."—Carroll A. Wilson, "Familiar 'Small College' Quotations, II: Mark Hopkins and the Log," The Colophon, spring 1938, p. 204.

Liberty

There is no liberty worth anything which is not a liberty under law.

Nathaniel J. Burton

Liberty

There is such a connection between licentiousness and liberty, that it is not easy to correct the one, without dangerously wounding the other; it is extremely hard to distinguish the true limit between them; like a changeable silk, we can easily see there are two colours, but we cannot easily discover where the one ends, or where the other begins.

Philip Dormer Stanhope,

Fourth Earl of Chesterfield

Miscellaneous Works, Vol. IV, 1779.

Liberty

These are the times that try men's souls.

Thomas Paine

Liberty

They that can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety.

Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790)

Historical Review of Pennsylvania (1759)

Liberty

They who are in highest places, and have the most power, have the least liberty, because they are the most observed.

John Tillotson

Liberty

This liberty will look easy by and by when nobody dies to get it.

Maxwell Anderson, Valley Forge, act III, final sentence, p. 110 (1937). George Washington is speaking.

Liberty

Those who won our independence believed that the final end of the State was to make men free to develop their faculties; and that in its government the deliberative forces should prevail over the arbitrary. They valued liberty both as an end and as a means. They believed liberty to be the secret of happiness and courage to be the secret of liberty.

Justice Louis D. Brandeis, concurring, Whitney v. California, 274 U.S. 375 (1927).

Liberty

Those who would give up essential liberty to purchase a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety.

Benjamin Franklin

Liberty

Those who would give up essential liberty, to purchase a little temporary safety, deserve neither liberty nor safety.

Benjamin Franklin, Pennsylvania Assembly: Reply to the Governor, November 11, 1755.—The Papers of Benjamin Franklin, ed. Leonard W. Labaree, vol. 6, p. 242 (1963).This quotation, slightly altered, is inscribed on a plaque in the stairwell of the pedestal of the Statue of Liberty: "They that can give up essential liberty to obtain a little safety deserve neither liberty nor safety."

Liberty

To one however who adores liberty, and the noble virtues of which it is the parent, there is some consolation in seeing, while we lament the fall of British liberty, the rise of that of America. Yes, my friend, like a young phoenix she will rise full plumed and glorious from her mother's ashes.

Arthur Lee, letter to Samuel Adams, December 24, 1772.—Richard Henry Lee, Life of Arthur Lee, vol. 1, p. 225 (1829, reprinted 1969).Adams repeated the striking phrase in a letter to Lee, April 9, 1773: "But America 'shall rise full plumed and glorious from her Mothers Ashes.'"—The Writings of Samuel Adams, ed. Harry A. Cushing, vol. 3, p. 21 (1907, reprinted 1968).

Liberty

True liberty consists only in the power of doing what we ought to will, and in not being constrained to do what we ought not to will.

Attributed to Jonathan Edwards.—George Seldes, The Great Quotations, p. 220 (1966). Unverified.

In the editor's introduction to Edwards's Freedom of the Will, ed. Paul Ramsey, p. 12 (1957), is a succinct summary of a portion of Edwards's definition of terms, part 1, section S (p. 164): "In other words, a man is free to do what he wills, but not to do what he does not will."

Liberty

We fear not death. That gloomy night, that pale-faced moon, and the affrighted stars that hurried through the sky, can witness that we fear not death.

John Hancock

Liberty

What constitutes the bulwark of our own liberty and independence? It is not our frowning battlements, our bristling sea coasts, the guns of our war steamers, or the strength of our gallant and disciplined army. These are not our reliance against a resumption of tyranny in our fair land. All of them may be turned against our liberties, without making us stronger or weaker for the struggle. Our reliance is in the love of liberty which God has planted in our bosoms. Our defense is in the preservation of the spirit which prizes liberty as the heritage of all men, in all lands, every where. Destroy this spirit, and you have planted the seeds of despotism around your own doors.

Abraham Lincoln, speech at Edwardsville, Illinois, September 11, 1858.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P. Basler, vol. 3, p. 95 (1953). The last two sentences appear in slightly varying form inscribed on a plaque in the stairwell of the pedestal of the Statue of Liberty: "Our defense is in the spirit which prized liberty as the heritage of all men, in all lands everywhere. Destroy this spirit and you have planted the seeds of despotism at your own doors."

Liberty

Where liberty dwells, there is my country.

Benjamin Franklin

Liberty

Where liberty is, there is my country.

Attributed to Benjamin Franklin.

H. L. Mencken, A New Dictionary of Quotations, p. 682 (1942) gives "Where liberty dwells, there is my country," with a note that this was in a Franklin letter to Benjamin Vaughan, March 14, 1783, but the on-going project, Papers of Benjamin Franklin, has been unable to identify this letter.

Alfred Owen Aldridge, Man of Reason, p. 169 (1959) says, "According to a tradition repeated by many biographers of Paine, Franklin at one time remarked in his hearing: 'Where liberty is, there is my country.'" Aldridge adds, "the story must be written off as apocryphal."

Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, 15th ed., p. 367 (1982), attributes this to James Otis, as his motto (Ubi libertas, ibi patria), but this has not been verified in either his speeches or biographical sources. It has also been attributed to Algernon Sidney, but has not been verified in any source.

Liberty

Where Slavery is there Liberty cannot be; and where Liberty is there Slavery cannot be.

Charles Sumner

Library

I no sooner come into the library, but I bolt the door to me, excluding lust, avarice and all such vices, whose nurse is idleness, the mother of ignorance and melancholy herself, and in the very lap of eternity, amongst so many divine souls, I take my seat, with so lofty a spirit and sweet content that I pity all our great ones and rich men that know not this happiness.

Robert Burton

The Anatomy of Melancholy.

Library

Knowing I lov'd my books, he furnish'd me,

From mine own library with volumes that

I prize above my dukedom.

William Shakespeare

The Tempest, I, ii, 166

Library

The founding of a library is one of the greatest things we can do….It is one of the quietest things; but there is nothing that I know of at bottom more important. Everyone able to read a good book becomes a wiser man. He becomes a similar center of light and order, and just insight into the things around him. A collection of good books contains all of the nobleness and wisdom of the world before us. A collection of books is the best of all universities.

Thomas Carlyle

Library

To add a library to a house is to give that house a soul.

Cicero

Lies/Liars/Lying

A good memory is needed after one has lied.

Pierre Corneille

Lies/Liars/Lying

A liar should have a good memory.

Quintilian [Marcus Fabius Quintilianus]

De Institutione Oratoria, IV, 2, 91

Lies/Liars/Lying

Everything that deceives may be said to enchant.

Plato

The Republic, III, 413-C

Lies/Liars/Lying

False words are not only evil in themselves, but they infect the soul with evil.

Plato

Lies/Liars/Lying

Fraud and prevarication are servile vices. They sometimes grow out of the necessities, always out of the habits, of slavish and degenerate spirits———It is an erect countenance, it is a firm adherence to principle, it is a power of resisting false shame and frivolous fear, that assert our good faith and honor, and assure to us the confidence of mankind.

Edmund Burke, "Letters on a Regicide Peace," letter 3, 1796-1797, The Works of the Right Honorable Edmund Burke, vol. 5, p. 414 (1899).

Lies/Liars/Lying

God's mouth knows not how to speak falsehood, but he brings to pass every word.

Aeschylus

Lies/Liars/Lying

How, then, might we contrive…one noble lie to persuade if possible the rulers themselves, but failing that the rest of the city?

Plato

The Republic, III, 414-C

Lies/Liars/Lying

I think the inherent right of the Government to lie to save itself when faced with nuclear disaster is basic.

Arthur Sylvester, assistant secretary of defense, speech at a meeting of the New York chapter of Sigma Delta Chi, New York City, December 6, 1962, as reported by The Washington Post, December 7, 1962, p. A-2.

Lies/Liars/Lying

Liars ought to have good memories.

Algernon Sidney

Lies/Liars/Lying

Lies and perfidy are the refuge of fools and cowards.

Philip Dormer Stanhope,

Fourth Earl of Chesterfield

The Letters of Lord Chesterfield, 1892, 516.

Lies/Liars/Lying

Lord, Lord, how this world is given to lying!

William Shakespeare

King Henry IV, I, V, iv, 148

Lies/Liars/Lying

No falsehood lingers on into old age.

Sophocles

Lies/Liars/Lying

Slander is worse than cannibalism.

St. John Chrysostom

Homilies, III.

Lies/Liars/Lying

Theology is the science of the divine lie, jurisprudence the science of the human lie, and metaphysics and idealistic philosophy the science of any half-lie.

Mikhail A. Bakunin

Gesammelte Werke, Golos trude edition, I, 184-5.

Lies/Liars/Lying

There is no such thing as white lies; a lie is as black as a coal pit, and twice as foul.

Henry Ward Beecher

Lies/Liars/Lying

Where lies are easily admitted, the father of lies is not easily kept out.

Author Unknown

Life

"I'll live."—Yes, but no sensible man would say so. Tomorrow's life is too late. Live today.

Martial [Marcus Valerius Martialis]

Epigrams, I, 15

Life

"The prince keeps [a] tortoise carefully enclosed in a chest in his ancestral temple. Now would this tortoise rather be dead and have its remains venerated, or would it rather be alive and wagging its tail in the mud?

"It would rather be alive…and wagging its tail in the mud."

"Begone!" cried Chuangtse. "I too will wag my tail in the mud."

Chuang Tzu

Autumn Floods

Life

47. I have anticipated thee, Fortune, and entrenched myself against all thy secret attacks…. but when it is time for us to go, spitting contempt on life and on those who here vainly cling to it, we will leave life crying aloud in a glorious triumph-song that we have lived well.

Epicurus (341-270 B.C.)

Fragments

Life

67. A free life cannot acquire many possessions, because this is not easy to do without servility to mobs or monarchs….

Epicurus (341-270 B.C.)

Fragments

Life

70. Let nothing be done in your life, which will cause you fear if it becomes known to your neighbor.

Epicurus (341-270 B.C.)

Fragments

Life

And on the Tree of Life,

The middle tree and highest there that grew,

Sat like a cormorant.

John Milton

Paradise Lost, IV, 194

Life

The time of life is short;

To spend that shortness basely were too long.

William Shakespeare

King Henry IV, I, V, ii, 81

Life

To yield is to be preserved whole.

To be bent is to become straight.

To be empty is to be full.

To be worn out is to be renewed.

To have little is to possess.

To have plenty is to be perplexed.

Lao Tzu

The Way Of Lao Tzu 22

Life

A baby is God's opinion that life should go on.

Carl Sandburg, Remembrance Rock, chapter 2, p. 7 (1948).

Life

A brave world, Sir, full of religion, knavery and change!

Aphra Behn

Life

A certain recluse, I know not who, once said that no bonds attached him to this life, and the only thing he would regret leaving was the sky.

Yoshida Kenko

Tsurezure-Gusa (Essays in Idleness)

Life

A gentleman of Boston, an intimate friend of Professor Aga Agassiz, once expressed his wonder that a man of such abilities as he (Agassiz) possessed should remain contented with such a moderate income. "I have enough," was Agassiz's reply. "I have not time to make money. Life is not sufficiently long to enable a man to get rich, and do his duty to his fellow-men at the same time." Christian, have you time to serve God and yet to give your whole soul to gaining wealth? The question is left for conscience to answer.

Charles H. Spurgeon

Life

A good man doubles the length of his existence, to have lived so as to look back with pleasure on our past life is to live twice.

Author Unknown

Life

Above all, Hubert was a man with a good heart. And on this sad day it would be good for us to recall Shakespeare's words:

A good leg will fall.

A straight back will stoop.

A black beard will turn white.

A curled pate will grow bald.

A fair face will wither.

A full eye will wax hollow.

But in Mortality a good heart

is the sun and the moon.

Or rather the sun and not the moon,

for it shines bright and never

changes, but keeps its course truly.

He taught us all how to hope and how to live, how to win and how to lose, he taught us how to live, and finally, he taught us how to die.

Vice President Walter F. Mondale, eulogy for former Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey, January 15, 1978, in the rotunda of the Capitol.—The Washington Post, January 16, 1978, p. 1.The Shakespeare quotation is a slight variation from Henry v act V, scene ii.

Life

All that happens is as usual and familiar as the rose in spring and the crop in summer.

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

Meditations, IV, 44

Life

All the world's a stage, and all the men and women in it merely players. They have their exits and their entrances; and one man in his time plays many parts.

Shakespeare

Life

All the world's a stage,

And all the men and women merely players.

They have their exits and their entrances,

And one man in his time plays many parts,

His acts being Seven ages. At first the infant,

Mewling and puking in the nurse's arms.

Then the whining school-boy, with his satchel

And shining morning face, creeping like snail

Unwillingly to school. And then the lover,

Sighing like furnace, with a woeful ballad

Made to his mistress' eyebrow. Then a soldier,

Full of strange oaths, and bearded like the pard,

Jealous in honour, sudden, and quick in quarrel,

Seeking the bubble reputation

Even in the cannon's mouth. And then the justice,

In fair round belly with good capon lin'd,

With eyes severe and beard of formal cut,

Full of wise saws and modern instances;

And so he plays his part. The sixth age shifts

Into the lean and slipper'd pantaloon [dotard],

With spectacles on nose and pouch on side,

His youthful hose, well sav'd, a world too wide

For his shrunk shank; and his big manly voice,

Turning again toward childish treble, pipes

And whistles in his sound. Last scene of all,

That ends this strange eventful history,

Is second childishness and mere oblivion,

Sans teeth, sans eyes, sans taste, sans every thing.

William Shakespeare, As You Like It, act II, scene vii, lines 139-66. Jaques is speaking.

Life

An unused life is an early death.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832)

Iphigenie auf Tauris (1787), Act 1, sc. 1

Life

And love, let us be true

To one another! for the world, which seems

To lie before us like a land of dreams,

So various, so beautiful, so new,

Hath really neither joy, nor love, nor light,

Nor certitude, nor peace, nor help for pain;

And we are here as on a darkling plain

Swept with confused alarums of struggle and flight,

Where ignorant armies clash by night.

Matthew Arnold

Dover Beach.

Life

Anyone can carry his burden, however hard, until nightfall. Anyone can do his work however hard, for one day. Anyone can live sweetly, patiently, lovingly, purely, till the sun goes down. And this is all that life really means.

Attributed to Robert Louis Stevenson by Senator Sam Ervin in his last newsletter, Senator Sam Ervin Says, January 2, 1975, p. 2. Unverified.

Life

Anything for a Quiet Life.

Thomas Middleton

Title of play

Life

As for life, it is a battle and a sojourning in a strange land; but the fame that comes after is oblivion.

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

Meditations, II, 17

Life

As I grow to understand life less and less, I learn to live it more and more.

Jules Renard

Life

…the giver of life, who gave it for happiness and not for wretchedness.

Thomas Jefferson, letter to James Monroe, May 20, 1782.—The Papers of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Julian P Boyd, vol. 6, p. 186 (1952).

Life

Be not afraid of life. Believe that life is worth living, and your belief will help create the fact.

William James

Life

Be such; and live such a life; that if every man were such as you; and every life a life like yours; this earth would be God's paradise.

Phillips Brooks

Life

Benjamin Franklin went through life an altered man because he once paid too dearly for a penny whistle. My concern springs usually from a deeper source, to wit, from having bought a whistle when I did not want one.

Robert Louis Stevenson

Life

Birth is not a beginning; death is not an end.

Confucius

Life

Consider the little mouse, how sagacious an animal it is which never entrusts its life to one hole only.

Titus Maccius Plautus

Truculentus, act IV, sc. iv, l. 15

Life

Count it the greatest sin to prefer life to honor, and for the sake of living to lose what makes life worth having.

Decimus Junius Juvenal

Satires, VIII, 83

Life

Dost thou love life? Then do not squander time, for that is the stuff that life is made of.

Benjamin Franklin

Life

Each thing is of like form from everlasting and comes round again in its cycle.

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

Meditations, II, 14

Life

Every day is a little life, and our whole life is but a day repeated. Therefore, live every day as if it would be the last.

Joseph Hall

Life

Every day we are changing, every day we are dying, and yet we fancy ourselves eternal.

St. Jerome

Letter 60

Life

Every hardship; every joy; every temptation is a challenge of the spirit; that the human soul may prove itself. The great chain of necessity wherewith we are bound has divine significance; and nothing happens which has not some service in working out the sublime destiny of the human soul.

Elias A. Ford

Life

Existence is a strange bargain. It owes us so little, we owe it everything.

John Mason Brown

Life

Great results cannot be achieved at once; and we must be satisfied to advance in life as we walk—step by step.

Samuel Smiles

Life

Green to green, red to red, all is well, go ahead. When in danger or in doubt, run in circles, scream and shout.

Sign on a sailboat

Life

He does not expose himself needlessly to danger, since there are few things for which he cares sufficiently; but he is willing, in great crises, to give even his life,—knowing that under certain conditions it is not worth while to live.

Aristotle

Ethics, IV, 3. Quoted by Durant, The Story of Philosophy.

Life

He was one of a lean body and visage, as if his eager soul, biting for anger at the clog of his body, desired to fret a passage through it.

Thomas Fuller

Life of the Duke of Alva

Life

He was, first and last, the born fighter, to whom the consciousness of being matched against a great adversary suffices and who can dispense with success. Life for him was an adventure, perilous indeed, but men are not made for safe havens. The fullness of life is in the hazards of life. And, at the worst, there is that in us which can turn defeat into victory.

Edith Hamilton, The Great Age of Greek Literature, p. 243 (1942). She was referring to Aeschylus.

Life

He who asks of life nothing but the improvement of his own nature…is less liable than anyone else to miss and waste life.

Henri Frederic Amiel

Life

Health and intellect are the two blessings of life.

Menander

Monostikoi [Single Lines]

Life

Here are the tears of things; mortality touches the heart.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aeneid, I, 462

Life

How little we should enjoy life if we never flattered ourselves.

Duc de la Rochefoucauld

Life

I advise you to go on living solely to enrage those who are paying your annuities. It is the only pleasure I have left.

Voltaire (Francois Marie Arouet)

Life

I am going to seek a grand perhaps; draw the curtain, the farce is played.

Francois Rabelais

Alleged last words.

From Morreux, life of Rabelais

Life

I am so far resigned to my lot that I feel small pain at the thought of having to part from what has been called the pleasant habit of existence….I would not care to live my wasted life over again…let me slip away as quietly and comfortably as I can.

Frederick Locker Lampson

Life

I am whatever was, or is, or will be; and my veil no mortal ever took up.

Plutarch

Morals. Of Isis and Osiris

Life

I bargained with Life for a penny,

And Life would pay no more, However I begged at evening when I counted my scanty store; For Life is a just employer, He gives you what you ask, But once you have set the wages, Why, you must bear the task. I worked for a menial's hire, Only to learn, dismayed, That any wage I had asked of Life, Life would have paid.

Jessie B. Rittenhouse, "My Wage," The Door of Dreams, p. 25 (1918).

Life

I feel compelled to look for a first Cause…and I deserve to be called a Deist.

I have never been an atheist in the sense of denying the existence of a God…. An agnostic would be the more correct description of my state of mind.

Charles Darwin (1809-1882)

Life and Letters of Charles Darwin (1887),

To Rev. J. Fordyce, July 7, 1879

Life

I feel, therefore I exist.

Thomas Jefferson,

letter to Adams, August 15, 1820.

Life

I think that, as life is action and passion, it is required of a man that he should share the passion and action of his time at peril of being judged not to have lived.

Oliver Wendell Holmes,

justice of the supreme court of Massachusetts,

Memorial Day speech, May 30, 1884, Keene, New Hampshire.

—Holmes, Speeches, p. 3 (1934).

Life

I took one Draught of Life—

I'll tell you what I paid—

Precisely an existence—

The market price, they said.

Emily Dickinson (1830-1886)

No. 1725 (n.d.)

Life

If a man is alive, there is always danger that he may die, though the danger must be allowed to be less in proportion as he is dead-and-alive to begin with. A man sits as many risks as he runs.

Henry David Thoreau, Walden, chapter 6, conclusion (vol. 2 of The Writings of Henry David Thoreau), p. 170 (1906, reprinted 1968). Originally published in 1854.

Life

In doing good avoid fame. In doing bad, avoid disgrace. Pursue a middle course as your principle. Thus you will guard your body from harm, preserve your life, fulfill your duties to your parents, and live your allotted span of life.

Chuang-Tzu (4th-3rd century B.C.)

The Preservation of Life (tr. Lin Yutang)

Life

Is not life a hundred times too short for us to bore ourselves?

Friedrich Nietzsche

Life

Isn't your life extremely flat

With nothing to grumble at?

W. S. Gilbert

Life

It has been said that when walking down the street one day the ex-President was addressed by a friend who said: "Mr. Adams, how are you?" The old gentleman pleasantly replied: "Thank you, sir! John Quincy Adams himself is well, sir, quite well. I thank you. But the house in which he lives at present is becoming dilapidated. It is tottering upon its foundations. Time and the seasons have nearly destroyed it. Its roof is pretty near well worn out. Its walls are much shattered, and it trembles with every wind. The old tenement is becoming uninhabitable, and I think John Quincy Adams will have to move out of it soon; but he, himself is quite well, sir, quite well."

Author Unknown

Life

It is impossible to live pleasurably without living wisely, well, and justly, and impossible to live wisely, well, and justly without living pleasurably.

Epicurus

From Diogenes Laertius, X, 140

Life

It is life nearest the bone, where it is the sweetest.

Henry David Thoreau

Life

Just as the wave cannot exist for itself, but is ever a part of the heaving surface of the ocean, so must I never live my life for itself, but always in the experience which is going on around me. It is an uncomfortable doctrine which the true ethics whisper into my ear. You are happy, they say; therefore you are called upon to give much.

Albert Schweitzer, Civilization and Ethics, chapter 26.—The Philosophy of Civilization, trans. C. T. Campion, part 2, p. 321 (1949, reissued 1981).

Life

Knowledge, love, power,—there is the complete life.

Henri Frederic Amiel

Journal, April 7, 1851.

Life

Leave this hypocritical prating about the masses. Masses are rude, lame, unmade, pernicious in their demands and influences, and need not to be flattered but to be schooled. I wish not to concede anything to them, but to tame, drill, divide, and break them up, and draw individuals out of them. The worst of charity is that the lives you are asked to preserve are not worth preserving. Masses! The calamity is the masses. I do not wish any mass at all, but honest men only, lovely, sweet, accomplished women only, and no shovel-handed, narrow-brained, gin-drinking million stockingers or lazzeroni at all. If government knew how, I should like to see it check, not multiply the population. When it reaches its true law of action, every man that is born will be hailed as essential.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Conduct of Life (1860)

Life

Let us endeavor to live so that when we die even the undertaker will be sad.

Mark Twain

Life

Let us live and love, my Lesbia, and value at a penny all the talk of crabbed old men. Suns may set and rise again: for us, when our brief light has set, there's the sleep of one everlasting night. Give me a thousand kisses.

Gaius Valerius Catullus

Carmina, V, 1

Life

Life can only be understood backwards; but it must be lived forwards.

Soren Kierkegaard

Life

Life comes before literature, as the material always comes before the work. The hills are full of marble before the world blooms with statues.

Phillips Brooks

Life

Life grants nothing to us mortals without hard work.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Satires, I, ix, 59

Life

Life involves suffering and transitoriness. No person can choose his age or the condition of his time. The past may rob the present of much joy and much mystery. The generation of Buchenwald and the Siberian labor camps cannot talk with the same optimism as its fathers. The bliss of Dante has been lost in our civilization.

Henry A. Kissinger, "The Meaning of History: Reflections on Spengler, Toynbee and Kant," senior thesis at Harvard College, as quoted in The New York Times, April 5, 1976, p. 20.

Life

Life is a do-it yourself project.

Denis Waitley

Life

Life is a progress from want to want, not from enjoyment to enjoyment.

Samuel Johnson

Life

Life is a romantic business. It is painting a picture, not doing a sum—but you have to make the romance, and it will come to the question how much fire you have in your belly.

Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, letter to Oswald Ryan, March 8, 1911.—Francis Biddle, Mr Justice Holmes, pp. 138-39 (1942).

Life

Life is a struggle.

Hope is not to be trusted.

Euripides (485-406 B.C.)

The Suppliants (c. 420 B.C.)

Life

Life is an incurable disease.

Abraham Cowley

To Dr. Scarborough

Life

Life is like playing a violin in public and learning the instrument as one goes on.

Samuel Butler

Life

Life is made up of marble and mud.

Nathaniel Hawthorne

Life

Life is not a problem to be solved but a reality to be experienced.

Soren Kierkegaard

Life

Life is real! Life is earnest!

And the grave is not its goal;

Dust thou art, to dust returneth,

Was not spoken of the soul.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Life

Life is short, art long, opportunity fleeting, experience treacherous, judgment difficult.

Hippocrates

Life

Life represents the efforts of men to organize society; government, the efforts of selfishness to overthrow liberty.

Henry Ward Beecher

Proverbs from Plymouth Pulpit.

Life

Life without mirth is a lamp without oil.

Sir Walter Scott

The Pirate

Life

Life would be infinitely happier if we could only be born at the age of eighty and gradually approach eighteen.

Mark Twain

Life

Life's brief span forbids us to enter on far-reaching hopes.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Odes, I, iv, 15

Life

Life, within doors, has few pleasanter prospects than a neatly arranged and well-provisioned breakfast table.

Nathaniel Hawthorne

Life

Listen to the Exhortation of the Dawn!

Look to this Day!

For it is Life, the very Life of Life.

In its brief course lie all the Verities and Realities of your Existence; The Bliss of Growth, The Glory of Action, The Splendor of Beauty; For Yesterday is but a Dream, And Tomorrow is only a Vision: But Today well lived makes Every Yesterday a Dream of Happiness, And every Tomorrow a Vision of Hope. Look well therefore to this Day! Such is the Salutation of the Dawn!

Author unknown. From the Sanskrit, "The Salutation of the Dawn."—Masterpieces of Religious Verse, ed. James Dalton Morrison, p. 301 (1948). Attributed in some sources to Kalidasa, Hindu dramatist and lyric poet of the fifth century, A.D.

Life

Live among men as if God beheld you; speak to God as if men were listening.

Lucius Annaeus Seneca

Epistles, 10, 5

Life

Look well to this day, for it, and it alone is life.

Author Unknown

Life

Making a life comes before making a living.

Author Unknown

Life

Manhood begins when we have, in a way, made truce with necessity; begins, at all events, when we have surrendered to necessity, as the most part only do; but begins joyfully and hopefully only when we have reconciled ourselves to necessity, and thus, in reality, triumphed over it, and felt that in necessity we are free.

Thomas Carlyle

Essays, Burns.

Life

Manifest plainness,

Embrace simplicity,

Reduce selfishness,

Have few desires.

Lao Tzu

The Way of Lao Tzu 19

Life

Mark how fleeting and paltry is the estate of man—yesterday in embryo, tomorrow a mummy or ashes. So for the hairsbreadth of time assigned to thee, live rationally, and part with life cheerfully, as drops the ripe olive, extolling the season that bore it and the tree that matured it.

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

Meditations, IV, 48

Life

May you live all the days of your life.

Jonathan Swift

Life

Men do not care how noble they live, but only how long, although it is within the reach of every man to live nobly, but within no man's power to live long.

Lucius Annaeus Seneca

Epistles, 22, 17

Life

Midway in our life's journey….

Dante (or Durante) Alighieri (1265-1321)

The Divine Comedy (c. 1307-1320): The Inferno (tr. Ciardi Canto I

Life

Miserable mortals who, like leaves, at one moment falme with life, eating the produce of the land, and at another moment weakly perish.

Homer

The Iliad, XXI, 463

Life

More was lost than mere life and existence.

Lucan

The Civil War, VII, 639

Life

My life closed twice before its close—

It yet remains to see

If immortality unveil

A third event to me

So huge, so hopeless to conceive

As these that twice befell.

Parting is all we know of heaven,

And all we need of hell.

Emily Dickinson (1830-1886)

No. 1732 (n.d.)

Life

No less long a time will he be no more, who has made an end of life with today's light.

Lucretius [Titus Lucretius Carus]

De Rerum Natura, III, 1092

Life

Not a day without a line.

Apelles

Proverbial from Pliny The Elder, Natural History XXXV, 36

Life

Nothing happens to anybody which he is not fitted by nature to bear.

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

Meditations, V, 18

Life

Nothing will sustain you more potently than the power to recognize in your humdrum routine,…the true poetry of life—the poetry of the commonplace, of the ordinary man, of the plain, toilworn woman, with their love and their joys, their sorrows and their griefs.

Sir William Osler

Life

Now is the season of sailing; for already the chattering swallow is come and the pleasant west wind; the meadows flower, and the sea tossed up with waves and rough blasts has sunk to silence. Weigh thine anchors and unloose thy hawsers, O mariner, and sail with all thy canvas set: this I Priapus of the harbor bid thee, O man, that thou mayest sail forth to all thy trafficking.

Leonidas of Tarentum

Greek Anthology, J.W. Mackail, ed. [1906], sec. 6, no. 26

Life

O Damsel Dorothy! Dorothy Q.!

Strange is the gift that I owe to you; Such a gift as never a king Save to daughter or son might bring,—All my tenure of heart and hand, All my title to house and land; Mother and sister and child and wife And joy and sorrow and death and life!

Oliver Wendell Holmes, "Dorothy Q."' stanza 5, The Poetical Works of Oliver Wendell Holmes, p. 187 (1975).Dorothy Quincy was Holmes's great-grandmother, and, as he explained in a headnote to the poem, pp. 186-87, "the daughter of Judge Edmund Quincy, and the aunt of Josiah Quincy, junior, the young patriot and orator who died just before the American Revolution, of which he was one of the most eloquent and effective promoters."

Life

Of his mercy he hath made for you the night and the day, that ye may rest in the one, and may seek to obtain provision for yourself of his abundance, by your industry, in the other.

The Koran

Chapter 28

Life

Oh to be a frog, my lads, and live aloof from care.

Theocritus

The Reapers, l. 52

Life

One great fact clearly stated, there is no wealth but life.

John Ruskin

Life

One of the illusions is that the present hour is not the critical; decisive hour. Write it on your heart that every day is the best day of your life.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Life

One picture in ten thousand, perhaps, ought to live in the applause of mankind, from generation to generation until the colors fade and blacken out of sight or the canvas rots entirely.

Nathaniel Hawthorne

Life

One's only real life is the life one never leads.

Oscar Wilde

Life

Our birth is but a sleep and a forgetting:

The soul that rises with us, our life's Star,

Hath had elsewhere its setting,

And cometh from afar;

Not in entire forgetfulness,

And not in utter nakedness,

But trailing clouds of glory do we come

From God, who is our home.

William Wordsworth

Life

Our Creator would never have made such lovely days, and have given us the deep hearts to enjoy them, above and beyond all thought, unless we were meant to be immortal.

Nathaniel Hawthorne

Life

Pythagoras used to say life resembles the Olympic Games; a few men strain their muscles to carry off a prize; others bring trinkets to sell to the crowd for a profit; and some there are who seek no further advantage than to look at the show and see how and why everything is done. They are spectators of other men's lives in order better to judge and manage their own.

Michel de Montaigne

Life

Remember that no man loseth other life than that which he liveth, nor liveth other than that which he loseth.

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

Meditations, II, 14

Life

Seek not, my soul, the life of the immortals; but enjoy to the full the resources that are within thy reach.

Pindar

Life

Take life as you find it, but don't leave it that way

Author Unknown

Life

The actuality of thought is life.

Aristotle

Metaphysics, XII, 7

Life

The body

of

Benjamin Franklin Printer

(Like the cover of an old book, its contents torn out

And stript of its lettering and gilding),

Lies here, food for worms;

But the work shall not be lost,

For it will (as he believed) appear once more

In a new

And more elegant edition, revised and corrected by the Author

(epitaph of Benjamin Franklin; on his gravestone)

Benjamin Franklin

Life

The boundaries which divide Life from Death are at best shadowy and vague. Who shall say where the one ends, and where the other begins?

Edgar Allan Poe

Life

The ease of my burdens, the staff of my life.

Miguel de Cervantes

Don Quixote, pt. I, III, 9, 163

Life

The experience of this sweet life.

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy. Paradiso, canto XX, 47

Life

The first half of our lives is ruined by our parents; the last half by our children.

Clarence Darrow

Life

The glory of the farmer is that, in the division of labors, it is his part to create…. The first farmer was the first man, and all historic nobility rests on the possession and use of land.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Conduct of Life (1860), "Farming"

Life

The goal of life is living in agreement with nature.

Zeno

From Diogenes Laertius, VII, 87

Life

The grand primum mobile of England is cant; cant political, cant poetical, cant religious, cant moral, but always cant, multiplied through all the varieties of life.

Lord Byron

Letter to John Murray, February 7, 1821.

Life

The great fault of all ethics hitherto has been that they believed themselves to have to deal only with the relations of man to man. In reality, however, the question is what is his attitude to the world and all life that comes within his reach. A man is ethical only when life, as such, is sacred to him, and that of plants and animals as that of his fellow men, and when he devotes himself helpfully to all life that is in need of help. Only the universal ethic of the feeling of responsibility in an ever-widening sphere for all that lives—only that ethic can be founded in thought…. The ethic of reverence for life, therefore, comprehends within itself everything that can be described as love, devotion, and sympathy whether in suffering, joy, or effort.

Albert Schweitzer, Out of My Life and Thought, An Autobiography, trans. C. T. Campion, chapter 13, p. 188 (1933).

Life

The greatest use of life is to spend it for something that outlasts it.

William James

Life

The immortals will send you to the Elysian plain at the ends of the earth, where fair-haired Rhadamanthys is. There life is supremely easy for men. No snow is there, nor ever heavy winter storm, nor rain, and Ocean is ever sending gusts of the clear-blowing west wind to bring coolness to men.

Homer

The Odyssey, IV, 563

Life

The less of routine, the more of life.

A. B. Alcott

Life

The life given us by nature is short; but the memory of a well spent life is eternal.

Cicero

Philippicae

Life

The life which is unexamined is not worth living.

Plato

Life

The man who has no inner life is the slave of his surroundings.

Henri Frederic Amiel

Life

The materials are indifferent, but the use we make of them is not a matter of indifference.

Epictetus

Discourses, II, 5

Life

The meaning of life cannot be told; it has to happen to a person.

Ira Progoff

Life

The nearer we approach to the goal of life, the better we begin to understand the true value of our existence and the real weight of our opinions. We set out much in love with both; but we leave much behind as we advance. We first throw away the tales along with the rattles of our nurses; those of the priest keep their hold a little longer; those of our governors the longest of all. But the passions which prop these opinions are withdrawn one after another; and the cool light of reason, at the setting of our life, shows us what a false splendor played upon these objects during our more sanguine seasons.

Edmund Burke

A Vindication of Natural Society, 1756.

Life

The one serious conviction that a man should have is that nothing is to be taken too seriously.

Samuel Butler

Life

The value of life lies not in the length of days, but in the use we make of them: a man may live long, yet get little from life. Whether you find satisfaction in life depends not on your tale of years, but on your will.

Michel Eyquem de Montaigne

Essays, I, 20

Life

The whole purpose of the world seems to be to provide a physical basis for the growth of the spirit.

Goethe

Life

The wooden wall is your ships.

Themistocles

From Plutarch, Lives, Themistocles, 10

Life

The world is a great ocean upon which we encounter more tempestuous storms than calms.

Edgar Allan Poe

Life

There are but three events in a man's life: birth, life and death. He is not conscious of being born, he dies in pain, and he forgets to live.

Jean de la Bruyere

Life

There are few things easier than to live badly and die well.

Oscar Wilde

Life

There are three things which are real: God, human folly, and laughter. Since the first two pass our comprehension, we must do what we can with the third.

Aubrey Menen, Rama Retold, p. 231 (1954).This is a modern retelling of part of the Ramayana. President John F. Kennedy presented his friend, White House appointment secretary David Powers, with a silver beer mug for his birthday, April 26, 1963. The inscription on the mug was a slight variation on the lines above:

There are three things which are real:

God, human folly and laughter.

The first two are beyond our comprehension

So we must do what we can with the third.

—The New York Times, April 29, 1963, p. 14.

Life

There are two great rules of life, the one general and the other particular. The first is that everyone can, in the end, get what he wants if he only tries. This is the general rule. The particular rule is that every individual is, more or less, an exception to the rule.

Samuel Butler

Note-Books.

Life

There is a road steep and thorny, and beset with perils of every kind, but yet a road, and it leads to the heart of the Universe. I can tell you how to find those who will show you the secret gateway that leads inward only, and closes fast behind the neophyte forevermore…. There is no danger that dauntless courage cannot conquer; there is no trial that spotless purity cannot pass through; there is no difficulty that strong intellect cannot surmount. For those who win onward, there is a reward past all telling: the power to bless and serve humanity. For those who fail, there are other lives in which success may come.

Elena (Petrovna) Blavatsky

Life

There is always inequity in life. Some men are killed in a war and some men are wounded, and some men never leave the country, and some men are stationed in the Antarctic and some are stationed in San Francisco. It's very hard in military or in personal life to assure complete equality. Life is unfair.

President John F. Kennedy, news conference, March 21, 1962.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: John F Kennedy, 1962, p. 259.

Life

There is no medicine to be found for a life which has fled.

Ibycus

Life

This is a world in which each of us, knowing his limitations, knowing the evils of superficiality and the terrors of fatigue, will have to cling to what is close to him, to what he knows, to what he can do, to his friends and his tradition and his love, lest he be dissolved in a universal confusion and know nothing and love nothing.

J. Robert Oppenheimer, The Open Mind, p. 144 (1955).

Life

This is living, not to live unto oneself alone.

Menander

The Brothers in Love, fragment 508

Life

This life the old Sabines knew long ago; Remus knew it, and his brother.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Georgics, II, 532

Life

Thus we never live, but we hope to live; and always disposing ourselves to be happy, it is inevitable that we never become so.

Blaise Pascal

Thoughts

Life

To a wise man every day is a new life.

Author Unknown

Life

To know nothing is the happiest life.

Desiderius Erasmus (1465-1536)

Moriae Encomium

Life

To live a life half dead, a living death.

John Milton

Samson Agonistes, 100

Life

Unrest of spirit is a mark of life; one problem after another presents itself and in the solving of them we can find our greatest pleasure.

Karl Menninger, "Take Your Choice," This Week Magazine, October 16, 1949, p. 2.

Life

Vigor is found in the man who has not yet grown old, and discretion in the man who is not too young.

Onasander

The General, 1, 10

Life

Virtue extends our days: he lives two lives who relives his past with pleasure.

Martial [Marcus Valerius Martialis]

Epigrams, X, 23

Life

Vivere est cogitare. (To think is to live.)

Marcus Tullius Cicero

Tusculanae disputationes.

Life

We go through life as some tourists go through Europe—so anxious to see the next sight; the next cathedral; the next picture; the next mountain peak; that we never stop to fill our sense with the beauty of the present one.

Minot J. Savage

Life

We live, not as we wish to, but as we can.

Menander

Lady of Andros, fragment 50

Life

We rarely find anyone who can say he has lived a happy life, and who, content with his life, can retire from the world like a satisfied guest.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Satires, I, i, 117

Life

Well, as you know, there are many things in life that are not fair, that wealthy people can afford and poor people can't. But I don't believe that the Federal Government should take action to try to make these opportunities exactly equal, particularly when there is a moral factor involved.

President Jimmy Carter, answer to a question asking whether it is fair that women who can afford abortions can get them while women who cannot afford them are precluded, news conference, Washington, D.C., July 12, 1977.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Jimmy Carter, 1977, book 2, p. 1237.

Life

Were it offered to my choice, I should have no objections to a repetition of the same life from its beginning, only asking the advantages authors have in a second edition to correct some faults of the first.

Benjamin Franklin

Life

Were the offer made true, I would engage to run again, from beginning to end, the same career of life. All I would ask should be the privilege of the author, to correct, in a second edition, certain errors of the first.

Benjamin Franklin

Life

What is life but the angle of vision? A man is measured by the angle at which he looks at objects. What is life but what a man is thinking of all day? This is his fate and his employer. Knowing is the measure of the man. By how much we know, so much we are.

Ralph Waldo Emerson, "Natural History of Intellect," part 1, Natural History of Intellect and Other Papers (vol. 12 of The Complete Works of Ralph Waldo Emerson), p. 10 (1921).

Life

What is our life? a play of passion,

Our mirth the music of division,

Our mothers' wombs the tiring houses be

Where we are dressed for this short comedy.

Sir Walter Raleigh

From Orlando Gibbons, The First Set of Madrigals and Motets. On the Life of Man

Life

What is the prime of life? May it not be defined as a period of about twenty years in a woman's life, and thirty in a man's?

Plato

The Republic, V, 460-E

Life

What surprises you, if a dream taught me this wisdom, and if I still fear I may wake up and find myself once more confined in prison? And even if this should not happen, merely to dream it is enough. For this I have come to know, that all human happiness finally ceases, like a dream.

Pedro Calderonde la Barca

Life Is a Dream, III, 1114

Life

Whatever happens at all happens as it should; thou wilt find this true, if thou shouldst watch narrowly.

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

Meditations, IV 10

Life

Whatever may befall thee, it was preordained for thee from everlasting.

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

Meditations, X, 5

Life

When a man has pity on all living creatures then only is he noble.

Buddha

Life

When all is done, human life is, at the greatest and the best, but like a froward child, that must be played with and humored a little to keep it quiet till it falls asleep, and then that care is over.

Sir William Temple

Miscellanea, pt. II. Of Poetry

Life

When I consider life, 'tis all a cheat;

Yet, fool'd with hope, men favor the deceit;

Trust on, and think tomorrow will repay.

Tomorrow's falser than the former day;

Lies worse, and while it says we shall be blest

With some new joys, cuts off what we possest.

Strange cozenage! None would live past years again,

Yet all hope pleasure in what yet remain;

And from the dregs of life think to receive

What the first sprightly running could not give.

John Dryden

Aureng-Zebe, IV, 1

Life

Where life is more terrible than death, it is then the truest valor to want to live.

Thomas Browne

Life

Wherever the Roman conquers, there he dwells.

Lucius Annaeus Seneca

Moral Essays. To Helvia on Consolation, 7, 7

Life

While there's life, there's hope.

Cicero

Life

While there's life, there's hope.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

Ad Atticum, IX, 10

Life

Who knows whether living is dying, and breathing

Is eating, and sleeping is a wool blanket?

Aristophanes

Frogs, 1477

Life

Whosoever enjoys not this life, I count him but an apparition, though he wear about him the sensible affections of flesh. In these moral acceptions, the way to be immortal is to die daily.

Sir Thomas Browne

Religio Medici, I, 45

Life

Why fear death? It is the most beautiful adventure in life.

Charles Frohman

Life

Without speculation there is no good and original observation.

Charles (Robert) Darwin (1809-1882)

Life and Letters of Charles Darwin (1887), To Alfred Russell Wallace, 1857

Life

Work as if you were to live a hundred years, pray as if you were to die tomorrow.

Benjamin Franklin

Life

Yes! Life is a banquet, and most poor sons-of-b—— are starving to death! Live!

Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee,

Auntie Mame, act II, scene vi (1957).

Auntie Mame is speaking. Based on the novel

of the same title by Patrick Dennis.

Life

You can't make a silk purse out of a sow's ear, and you can't change human nature from intelligent self-interest into pure idealism—not in this life; and if you could, what would be left for paradise?

Representative Joseph A. Cannon, maxim quoted in a tribute to Cannon on his retirement, The Sun, Baltimore, Maryland, March 4, 1923.—Congressional Record, March 4, 1923, vol. 64, p. 5714. "Uncle Joe" Cannon, who was Speaker of the House 1903-1911, served in the House for 46 years.

Life

You're obstinate, pliant, merry, morose, all at once. For me there's no living with you, or without you.

Martial [Marcus Valerius Martialis]

Epigrams, XII, 47

Life/Death

All these last offices and ceremonies that concern the dead, the careful funeral arrangements, and the equipment of the tomb, and the pomp of obsequies, are the solace of the living rather than the comfort of the dead.

Augustine, City of God, I, 12

Life/Death

Always observe how ephemeral and worthless human things are….Pass then through this little space of time conformably to nature, and end thy journey in content, just as an olive falls off when it is ripe, blessing nature who produced it, and thanking the tree on which it grew.

Marcus Aurelius, Meditations, IV, 48

Life/Death

As it is with a play, so it is with life—what matters is not how long the acting lasts, but how good it is. It is not important at what point you stop. Stop wherever you will—only make sure that you round it off with a good ending.

Seneca, Letters to Lucilius, 77

Life/Death

As men are not able to fight against death, misery, ignorance, they have taken it into their heads, in order to be happy, not to think of them at all.

Despite these miseries, man wishes to be happy, and only wishes to be happy, and cannot wish not to be so. But how will he set about it? To be happy he would have to make himself immortal; but, not being able to do so, it has occurred to him to prevent himself from thinking of death.

Pascal, Pensees, II, 168-169

Life/Death

Death and wounds will be painful to the brave man and against his will, but he will face them because it is noble to do so or because it is base not to do so. And the more he is possessed of virtue in its entirety and the happier he is, the more he will be pained at the thought of death; for life is best worth living for such a man, and he is knowingly losing the greatest goods, and this is painful.

Aristotle, Ethics, 1117b7

Life/Death

Happy the man, who, studying nature's laws,

Through known effect can trace the secret cause—

His mind possessing in a quite state,

Fearless of Fortune, and resigned to Fate!

Virgil, Georgics, II

Life/Death

If the nearness of our last necessity brought a nearer conformity into it, there were a happiness in hoary hairs and no calamity in half senses. But the long habit of living indisposeth us for dying.

Sir Thomas Browne, Urn-Burial, V

Life/Death

In everything else there may be shame: the fine reasonings of philosophy may be a mere pose in us; or else our trials, by not testing us to the quick, give us a chance to keep our face always composed. But in the last scene, between death and ourselves, there is no more pretending; we must talk plain French, we must show what there is that is good and clean at the bottom of the pot.

Montaigne, Essays, I, 19, That Our Happiness

Life/Death

In youth alone unhappy mortals life;

But ah! the mighty bliss is fugitive:

Discoloured sickness, anxious labours, come,

And age, and death's inexorable doom.

Virgil, Georgics, III

Life/Death

It is uncertain where death awaits us; let us await it everywhere. Premeditation of death is premeditation of freedom. He who has learned how to die has unlearned how to be a slave. Knowing how to die frees us from all subjection and constraint. There is nothing evil in life for the man who has thoroughly grasped the fact that to be deprived of life is not an evil.

Montaigne, Essays, I, 20, That to Philosophize

Life/Death

It is worthy the observing that there is no passion in the mind of man so weak but it mates and masters the fear of death; and therefore death is no such terrible enemy when a man hath so many attendants about him that can win the combat of him. Revenge triumphs over death; love slights it; honour aspireth to it; grief flieth to it; fear preoccupateth it.

Bacon, Of Death

Life/Death

Let us get rid of such old wives' tales as the one that tells us it is tragic to die before one's time. What "time" is that, I would like to know? Nature is the one who has granted us the loan of our lives, without setting any schedule for repayment. What has one to complain of if she calls in the loan when she will?

Cicero, Disputations, I, 39

Life/Death

Life in the supreme is the native activity of intellect; in virtue of that converse it brings forth gods, brings forth beauty, brings forth righteousness, brings forth all moral good; for of all these the soul is pregnant when it has been filled with God. This state is its first and its final, because from God it comes, its good lies there, and, once turned to God again, it is what it was. Life here, with the things of earth, is a sinking, a defeat, a failing of the wing.

Plotinus, Sixth Ennead, IX, 9

Life/Death

Life is full of fireworks; death, of love and courtesy.

Montaigne, Essays, II, 35, Of Three Good Women

Life/Death

Man, that is born of a woman, hath but a short time to live, and is full of misery. He cometh up and is cut down like a flower; he fleeth as it were a shadow, and never continueth in one stay. In the midst of life we are in death; of whom may we week for succour, but of thee, O Lord, who for our sins are justly displeased?

Book of Common Prayer

Life/Death

Nature forces us to it. Go out of this world, she says, as you entered it. The same passage that you made from death to life, without feeling or fright, make it again from life to death. For you death is a part of the order of the universe; it is a part of the life of the world.

Montaigne, Essays, I, 20, That to Philosophize

Life/Death

No longer mourn for me when I am dead

Than you shall hear the surly sullen bell

Give warning to the world that I am fled

From this vile world, with wilest worms to dwell.

Shakespeare, Sonnet LXXI

Life/Death

Now among all passions inflicted from without, death holds the first place, just as sexual concupiscences are chief among internal passions. Consequently, when a man conquers death and things directed to death, his is a most perfect victory.

Aquinas, Summa Theologica, III Suppl., 96, 6

Life/Death

Now death is the most terrible of all things; for it is the end, and nothing is thought to be any longer either good or bad for the dead.

Aristotle, Ethics, 1115a27

Life/Death

Now life is defined in the case of animals by the power of perception, in that of man by the power of perception or thought; and a power is defined by reference to the corresponding activity, which is the essential thing; therefore life seems to be essentially the act of perceiving or thinking. And life is among the things that are good and pleasant in themselves.

Aristotle, Ethics, 1170a16

Life/Death

O eloquent, just, and mighty Death! Whom none could advise, thou hast persuaded; what none hath dared, thou hast done; and whom all the world hath flattered, thou only hast cast out of the world and despised; thou hast drawn together all the far-stretched greatness, all the pride, cruelty, and ambition of man, and covered it all over with these two narrow words, Hic jacet!

Sir Walter Raleigh, History of the World, Bk. V, VI, 12

Life/Death

Of the first and bodily death, we may say that to the good it is good, and evil to the evil. But, doubtless, the second, because it happens to none of the good, can be good for none.

Augustine, City of God, XIII, 2

Life/Death

Soon, very soon, thou wilt be ashes, or a skeleton, and either name or not even a name; but name is sound and echo. And the things which are much valued in life are empty and rotten and trifling, and like little dogs biting one another, and little children quarrelling, laughing, and then straightway weeping.

Marcus Aurelius, Meditations, V, 33

Life/Death

The death of happy men is not…most grievous, but most blessed, since it secures their felicity, and puts it out of fortune's power. And that Spartan advised well, who, embracing Diagoras, that had himself been crowned in the Olympic Games, and saw his sons and granchildren victors, said, "Die, Diagoras, for thou canst not be a god."

Plutarch, Pelopidas

Life/Death

The death…of the soul takes place when God forsakes it, as the death of the body when the soul forsakes it.

Augustine, City of God, XIII, 2

Life/Death

The philosopher's whole life is a preparation for death.

Cicero, Disputations, I, 30

Life/Death

The soul in its nature loves God and longs to be at one with Him in the noble love of a daughter for a noble father; but coming to human birth and lured by the courtships of this sphere, she takes up with another love, a mortal, leaves her father and falls. But one day coming to hate her shame, she puts away the evil of earth, and once more seeks the father, and finds her peace.

Plotinus, Sixth Ennead, IX, 9

Life/Death

There are gallant and fortunate deaths. I have seen death bring a wonderfully brilliant career, and that in its flower, to such a splendid end that in my opinion the dead man's ambitions and courageous designs had nothing so lofty about them as their interruption. He arrived where he aspired to without going there, more grandly and gloriously than he had desired or hoped. And by his fall he went beyond the power and the fame to which he had aspired by his career.

Montaigne, Essays, I, 19, That Our Happiness

Life/Death

There is neither the word nor the thing of purgatory, neither in this nor any other text; nor anything that can prove a necessity of a place for the soul without the body….For God, that could give a life to a piece of clay, hath the same power to give life again to a dead man, and renew his inanimate and rotten carcass into a glorious spiritual, and immortal body.

Hobbes, Leviathan, IV, 44

Life/Death

To hold long subsistence seems but a scape in oblivion. But man is a noble animal, splendid in ashes and pompous in the grave, solemnizing nativities and deaths with equal lustre, nor omitting ceremonies of bravery in the infamy of his nature.

Sir Thomas Browne, Urn-Burial, V

Life/Death

We are fools to depend upon the society of our fellowmen. Wretched as we are, powerless as we are, they will not aid us; we shall die alone.

Pascal, Pensees, III, 211

Life/Death

We can die by it, if not live by love,

And if unfit for tombs and hearse

Our legend be, it will be fit for verse;

And if no peace of chronicle we prove,

We'll build in sonnet pretty rooms;

As well a well wrought urne becomes

The greatest ashes, as half-acre tombs.

Donne, The Canonization

Life/Death

We enjoy some gratification when our good friends die; for though their death leaves us in sorrow, we have the consolatory assurance that they are beyond the ills by which in this life even the best of men are broken down or corrupted.

Augustine, City of God, XIX, 8

Life/Death

What does it matter when it comes, since it is inevitable? To the man who told Socrates, "The thirty tyrants have condemned you to death," he replied: "And nature, them."

Montaigne, Essays, I, 20, That to Philosophize

Life/Death

What is death? Either a transition or an end. I am not afraid of coming to an end, this being the same as never having begun, nor of transition, for I shall never be in confinement quite so cramped anywhere else as I am here.

Seneca, Letters to Lucilius, 65

Life/Death

When the body has died, we must admit that the soul has perished, wrenched away throughout the body. To link forsooth a mortal thing with an everlasting and suppose that they can have sense in common and can be reciprocally acted upon, is sheer folly; for what can be conceived more incongruous, more discordant and inconsistent with itself, than a thing which is mortal, linked with an immortal and everlasting thing, trying in such union to weather furious storms.

Lucretius, Nature of Things, III

Listening

He listens well who takes notes.

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy, Canto XV, 99

Listening

Most of the successful people I've known are the ones who do more listening than talking.

Bernard Baruch

Listening

Romans, countrymen, and lovers! hear me for my cause; and be silent, that you may hear.

William Shakespeare

Julius Caesar, III, ii, 13

Literature

A classic is something that everybody wants to have read and nobody wants to read.

Mark Twain

Literature

It does not follow because many books are written by persons born in America that there exists an American literature. Books which imitate or represent the thoughts and life of Europe do not constitute an American literature. Before such can exist, an original idea must animate this nation and fresh currents of life must call into life fresh thoughts along the shore.

Margaret Fuller

Literature

Literature is an investment of genius which pays dividends to all subsequent times.

John Burroughs

Literature

Literature is my Utopia. Here I am not disfranchised. No barrier of the senses shuts me out from the sweet, gracious discourse of my book-friends. They talk to me without embarrassment or awkwardness.

Helen Keller

Literature

Much reading is an oppression of the mind, and extinguishes the natural candle, which is the reason of so many senseless scholars in the world.

William Penn

Literature

Take the whole range of imaginative literature, and we are all wholesale borrowers. In every matter that relates to invention, to use, or beauty or form, we are borrowers.

Wendell Phillips

Literature

There is no luck in literary reputation. They who make up the final verdict upon every book are not the partial and noisy readers of the hour when it appears; but a court of angels, a public not to be bribed, not to be entreated, and not to be overawed, decides upon every man's title and fame.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Living

"Let me not live," said Aretine's Antonia, "if I had not rather hear thy discourse than see a play."

Robert Burton

Anatomy of Melancholy, III, 1, 1, 1

Living

1.You cannot bring about prosperity by discouraging thrift.

2. You cannot strengthen the weak by weakening the strong.

3. You cannot help small men up by tearing big men down.

4. You cannot help the poor by destroying the rich.

5. You cannot lift the wage-earner up by pulling the wage-payer down.

6. You cannot keep out of trouble by spending more than your income.

7. You cannot further the brotherhood of man by inciting class hatred.

8. You cannot establish sound social security on borrowed money.

9. You cannot build character and courage by taking away a man's initiative and independence.

10. You cannot help men permanently by doing for them what they could and should do for themselves.

Erroneously attributed to Abraham Lincoln.

Since the 1940s these "Ten Points" attributed to Lincoln

have been widely reprinted. They have appeared in such places as

magazines, Christmas cards, and the Congressional Record.

The Library of Congress and Lincoln scholars believe that any

connection made between Lincoln and the "Ten Points" is spurious.

Living

A Decalogue of Canons for observation in practical life.

1. Never put off till tomorrow what you can do today.

2. Never trouble another for what you can do yourself.

3. Never spend your money before you have it.

4. Never buy what you do not want, because it is cheap; it will be dear to you.

5. Pride costs us more than hunger, thirst and cold.

6. We never repent of having eaten too little.

7. Nothing is troublesome that we do willingly.

8. How much pain have cost us the evils which have never happened.

9. Take things always by their smooth handle.

10. When angry, count ten, before you speak; if very angry, an hundred.

Thomas Jefferson, letter to Thomas Jefferson Smith, February 21, 1825.—Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Paul L. Ford, vol. 10, p. 341 (1899).

Living

And a rose, she lived as roses do, the space of a morn.

Francois de Malherbe

Consolation a Monsieur de Perior

Living

And this which you deem of no moment is the very highest of all: that is whether you have a right idea of the gods, whereby you may live your life well or ill.

Plato

Laws, 888

Living

Be useful where thou livest.

George Herbert

The Temple. The Church Porch, 55

Living

Every one lives by selling something, whatever be his right to it.

Robert Louis Stevenson, "Beggars," Across the Plains with Other Memories and Essays, p. 263 (1903).

Living

Go placidly amid the noise and the haste, and remember what peace there may be in silence. As far as possible, without surrender, be on good terms with all persons. Speak your truth quietly and clearly; and listen to others, even to the dull and the ignorant; they too have their story. Avoid loud and aggressive persons; they are vexatious to the spirit. If you compare yourself with others, you may become vain or bitter, for always there will be greater and lesser persons than yourself. Enjoy your achievements as well as your plans. Keep interested in your own career, however humble; it is a real possession in the changing fortunes of time. Exercise caution in your business affairs, for the world is full of trickery. But let this not blind you to what virtue there is; many persons strive for high ideals, and everywhere life is full of heroism. Be yourself. Especially do not feign affection. Neither be cynical about love; for in the face of all aridity and disenchantment, it is as perennial as the grass. Take kindly the counsel of the years, gracefully surrendering the things of youth. Nurture strength of spirit to shield you in sudden misfortune. But do not distress yourself with dark imaginings. Many fears are born of fatigue and loneliness. Beyond a wholesome discipline, be gentle with yourself. You are a child of the universe no less than the trees and the stars; you have a right to be here. And whether or not it is clear to you, no doubt the universe is unfolding as it should. Therefore be at peace with God, whatever you conceive Him to be. And whatever your labors and aspirations, in the noisy confusion of life, keep peace in your soul. With all its sham, drudgery and broken dreams, it is still a beautiful world. Be cheerful. Strive to be happy.

Max Ehrmann, "Desiderata," The Poems of Max Ehrmann, p. 165 (1948).There has been confusion about the authorship of this poem. In 1956, the rector Of St. Paul's Church in Baltimore, Maryland, used the poem in a collection of mimeographed inspirational material for his congregation. Someone printing it later said it was found in Old St. Paul's Church, Baltimore, dated 1692. The year 1692 is the founding date of the church and has nothing to do with the poem, which was written in 1927. It was widely distributed with the 1692 date. A copy of it was found on the bedside table of Adlai Stevenson's New York apartment after his death in 1965. He had been planning to use it on his Christmas cards identifying it as an ancient poem. The Stevenson connection helped bring the poem to the attention of the public.—Fred D. Cavinder, "Desiderata," TWA Ambassador, August 1973, pp. 14-15.

Living

He who should teach men to die would at the same time teach them to live.

Michel Eyquem de Montaigne

Essays, I, 19

Living

I would rather be ashes than dust! I would rather that my spark should burn out in a brilliant blaze than it should be stifled by dry-rot. I would rather be a superb meteor, every atom of me in magnificent glow, than a sleepy and permanent planet. The proper function of man is to live, not to exist. I shall not waste my days in trying to prolong them. I shall use my time.

Jack London, Jack London's Tales of Adventure, ed. Irving Shepard, Introduction, p. vii (1956). This is generally known as London's Credo. He is known to have said these words, just two months before his death, to a group of friends with whom he was discussing life and living.—The Bulletin, San Francisco, California, December 2, 1916, part 2, p. 1.

Living

If you had to define stress, it would not be far off if you said it was the process of living. The process of living is the process of having stress imposed on you and reacting to it.

Stanley J. Sarnoff.—Man Under Stress, conference no. 7, University of California San Francisco Medical Center, November 15-17, 1963, p. 100.

Living

It costs so much to be a full human being that there are very few who have the enlightenment, or the courage, to pay the price…. One has to abandon altogether the search for security, and reach out to the risk of living with both arms. One has to embrace the world like a lover, and yet demand no easy return of love. One has to accept pain as a condition of existence. One has to court doubt and darkness as the cost of knowing. One needs a will stubborn in conflict, but apt always to the total acceptance of every consequence of living and dying.

Morris L. West, The Shoes of the Fisherman, p. 254 (1963).

Living

It is not well for a man to pray, cream; and live skim milk.

Henry Ward Beecher, Life Thoughts, ed. Edna Dean Proctor, p. 64 (1858).

Living

It was about this time I conceived the bold and arduous project of arriving at moral perfection. As I know, or thought I knew, what was right and wrong, I did not see why I might not always do the one and avoid the other. So I included under thirteen names, all that at time occurred to me as necessary or desirable, and annexed to each a short precept.

1. Temperance—Eat not to dullness; drink not to elevation.

2. Silence—Speak not but what may benefit others or yourself.

3. Order—Let all your things have their places; each activity its time.

4. Resolution—Resolve to perform what you ought. Perform what you resolve.

5. Frugality—Make no expense but to do good to others and yourself.

6. Industry—Lose no time; be always employed in something useful.

7. Sincerity—Think and speak justly.

8. Justice—Wrong none by doing injuries, or omitting benefits that are your duty.

9. Moderation—Avoid extremes.

10. Cleanliness—Tolerate no uncleanliness in body, clothes, or habitation.

11. Tranquility—Be not disturbed at trifles, or at unavoidable incidents.

12. Chastity—Clean thoughts and wholesome activities lead to clean living.

13. Humility—Imitate Jesus and Socrates.

Benjamin Franklin

Living

Let there be a small country with few people…. Though neighboring communities overlook one another and the crowing of cocks and barking of dogs can be heard. Yet the people there may grow old and die without ever visiting one another.

Lao Tzu

The Way of Lao Tzu 80

Living

Let us endeavor so to live that when we come to die even the undertaker will be sorry.

Mark Twain (Samuel L. Clemens), Pudd'nhead Wilson (vol. 14 of The Writings of Mark Twain), chapter 6, epigraph, p. 56 (1894, reprinted 1968).

Living

Live dangerously and you live right.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832)

Faust (1806)

Living

Live like a god among men.

Epicurus (341-270 B.C.)

Letter to Menoeceus

Living

Live unknown.

Epicurus (341-270 B.C.)

Fragments (from uncertain sources), Ethics 86

Living

Live with the gods.

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

Meditations, V, 27

Living

Man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the Lord doth man live.

The Bible, Deuteronomy 8:3.

Living

Man is born to live, not to prepare for life.

Boris Pasternak, Doctor Zhivago, p. 297 (1958).

Living

More will sometimes be demanded of you than is reasonable. Bear it meekly, and exhaust your time and strength in performing your duties, rather than in vindicating your rights. Be silent, even when you are misrepresented. Turn aside when opposed, rather than confront opposition with resistance. Bear and forbear, not defending yourselves, so much as trusting to your works to defend you. Yet, in counseling you thus, I would not be understood to be a total non-resistant;—a perfectly passive, non-elastic sand-bag, in society; but I would not have you resist until the blow be aimed, not so much at you, as, through you, at the sacred cause of human improvement, in which you are engaged,—a point at which forbearance would be allied to crime.

Horace Mann, remarks at the dedication of the Bridgewater State Normal Schoolhouse, Bridgewater, Massachusetts, August 19, 1846.—Horace Mann on the Crisis in Education, ed. Louis Filler, p. 167 (1965).Mann served in Congress 1848-1853.

Living

Never complain and never explain.

Benjamin Disraeli.—John Morley, The Life of William Ewart Gladstone, vol. I, p. 123 (1903, reprinted 1968).See No. 686 for a later variation.

Living

One's existence should be in two parts: one should live like a bourgeois and think like a demi-god….

If you seek happiness and beauty simultaneously, you will attain neither one or the other, for the price of beauty is self-denial. Art, like the Jewish God, wallows in sacrifices.

Gustave Flaubert (1821-1880)

Letters, To Mlle Louise Colet, August 21-22, 1853

Living

Only those are fit to live who do not fear to die; and none are fit to die who have shrunk from the joy of life and the duty of life. Both life and death are parts of the same Great Adventure.

Theodore Roosevelt, The Great Adventure (vol. 19 of The Works of Theodore Roosevelt, national ed.), chapter 1, opening sentences, p. 243 (1926).Douglas MacArthur, speech, July 14, 1935, at the annual reunion of veterans of the Rainbow (42d) Infantry Division, World War I, said, "Only those are fit to live who are not afraid to die."—A Soldier Speaks: Public Papers and Speeches of General of the Army Douglas MacArthur, p. 70 (1965).

Living

THE ART OF LIVING TOGETHER

You are heir of the ages. Men reaching for the stars have created for you a world of wonder and challenge…

Living in you now are the ideals of the ragged soldiers of Valley Forge, the gallant Pilgrims, the daring explorers and pioneers, the fighters for freedom through all history…

On a more intimate note your mother, father, teacher, clergyman, friend have built their influences into your character…

More enduring than skyscrapers, bridges, cathedrals and other material symbols of man's achievement are the invisible monuments of wisdom, inspiration and example erected in the hearts and minds of men…

Example has immortal momentum. It has been truly said that a boy does not have to be shown a mark on the wall to measure up to when there is a man around about the size he wants to be…

Mentor Graham, teacher of Lincoln, is forgotten, but his influence lives forever in the Man for the Ages…

Your example, your words, your ideas, your ideals will also be projected into the future and will live forever in the lives of others…

As you help men to grow, as you work for peace, understanding and good will, your influence will merge, with the good influences of men of every age, into the eternal golden stream of God's goodness…

As you throw the weight of your influence on the side of the good, the true and the beautiful, your life will achieve an endless splendor. It will go on in others, bigger, finer, nobler, than you ever dared to be.

Wilfred A. Peterson

Living

The dead govern the living.

Auguste Comte (1798-1857)

Catechisme Positiviste (1852)

Living

The greatest thing in the world is to know how to be sufficient unto oneself.

Michel Eyquem de Montaigne

Essays, I, 39

Living

The mass of men lead lives of quiet desperation. What is called resignation is confirmed desperation. From the desperate city you go into the desperate country, and have to console yourself with the bravery of minks and muskrats. A stereotyped but unconscious despair is concealed even under what are called the games and amusements of mankind. There is no play in them, for this comes after work. But it is a characteristic of wisdom not to do desperate things.

Henry David Thoreau, Walden, chapter 1, p. 8 (1966). Originally published in 1854.

Living

The Master said, At fifteen I set my heart upon learning. At thirty, I planted my feet firm upon the ground. At forty, I no longer suffered from perplexities. At fifty, I knew what were the biddings of Heaven. At sixty, I heard them with docile ear. At seventy, I would follow the dictates of my own heart; for what I desired no longer overstepped the boundaries of right.

Confucius (551-479 B.C.)

Confucian Analects (tr. James Legge), Bk. II, 4

Living

The riders in a race do not stop short when they reach the goal. There is a little finishing canter before coming to a standstill. There is time to hear the kind voice of friends and to say to one's self: "The work is done." But just as one says that, the answer comes: "The race is over, but the work never is done while the power to work remains." The canter that brings you to a standstill need not be only coming to rest. It cannot be while you still live. For to live is to function. That is all there is in living.

Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, radio address, March 8, 1931.—Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, His Book Notices and Uncollected Letters and Papers, ed. Harry C. Shriver, p. 142 (1936)."Justice Holmes' first and only radio address, delivered upon his ninetieth birthday, in response to felicitations from Chief Justice Hughes and the American Bar" (footnote 14, p. 142).

Twenty or thirty years earlier, Holmes had said, "Life is action, the use of one's powers. As to use them to their height is our joy and duty, so it is the one end that justifies itself…" "Life is a roar of bargain and battle; but in the very heart of it there rises a mystic spiritual tone that gives meaning to the whole, and transmutes the dull details into romance…" "Man is born a predestined idealist, for he is born to act…. To act is to affirm the worth of an end and to persist in affirming the worth of an end is to make an ideal."—Holmes, Speeches, pp. 85, 96, 97 (1913), as cited by Shriver, footnote 15, p. 142.

Living

Tuning the lyre and handling the harp are no accomplishments of mine, but rather taking in hand a city that was small and inglorious and making it glorious and great.

Themistocles

From Plutarch, Lives, Themistocles, sec. 2

Living

We are always getting ready to live but never living.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Journals

Living

When you are no longer what you were, there is no reason left for being alive.

Marcus Tullius Cicero (106-43 B.C.)

Ad Familiares, vii

Living

[When asked by Alexander if he wanted anything] Stand a little out of my sun.

Diogenes The Cynic

From Plutarch, Lives, Alexander, 14

Logic

All snakes who wish to remain in Ireland will please raise their right hands.

Attributed to Saint Patrick

Logic

Logic is like the sword—those who appeal to it shall perish by it.

Samuel Butler

Logic

Logicians have but ill defined

As rational the human kind.

Logic, they say, belongs to man,

But let them prove it if they can.

Oliver Goldsmith

Logic

Logic—an instrument used for bolstering a prejudice.

Elbert Hubbard

Logic

Post hoc, ergo propter hoc.

After this, therefore because of this.

Anonymous Latin

Definition of fallacy in logic

Logic

Walter Shandy attributed most of his son's misfortunes to the fact that at a highly critical moment his wife had asked him if he had wound the clock, a question so irrelevant that he despaired of the child's ever being able to pursue a logical train of thought.

Laurence Sterne

Loneliness

People are lonely because they build walls instead of bridges.

Joseph Fort Newton

Loneliness

The moon has set, and the Pleiades; it is midnight, and time passes, and I sleep alone.

Sappho

Fragment 94

Loneliness

When you close your doors, and make darkness within, remember never to say that you are alone, for you are not alone; nay, God is within, and your genius is within. And what need have they of light to see what you are doing?

Epictetus

Discourses, I, 14

Love

"Little children, love one another."

St John the Divine

Legendary

Love

51. You tell me that the stimulus of the flesh makes you too prone to the pleasures of love. Provided that you do not break the laws or good customs and do not distress any of your neighbors or do harm to your body or squander your pittance, you may indulge your inclinations as you please. Yet it is impossible not to come up against one or another of these barriers: for the pleasures of love never profited a man and he is lucky if they do him no harm.

Epicurus (341-270 B.C.)

Fragments

Love

Self-love is the greatest of all flatterers.

Francois Rochefoucauld

Reflections; or, Sentences and Moral Maxims, 2

Love

There are very few people who are not ashamed of having been in love when they no longer love each other.

Francois, Duc de la Rochefoucauld

Reflections; or, Sentences and Moral Maxims, 71

Love

My love's

More richer than my tongue.

William Shakespeare

King Lear, I, 1, 79

Love

The evening star,

Love's harbinger.

John Milton

Paradise Lost, XI, 588

Love

Love all, trust a few,

Do wrong to none: be able for thine enemy

Rather in power than use, and keep thy friend

Under thy own life's key: be check'd for silence,

Bur never tax'd for speech.

William Shakespeare

All's Well That Ends Well, I, i, 74

Love

The wounds invisible

That love's keen arrows make.

William Shakespeare

As You Like It, III, v, 30

Love

A bell is no bell til you ring it. A song is no song til you sing it. And love in your heart wasn't put there to stay, Love isn't love 'til you give it away.

Oscar Hammerstein

Love

A great love goes here with a little gift.

Theocritus

The Distaff, l. 24

Love

A life without love, a year without summer.

Swedish Proverb

Love

A man of sovereign parts he is esteem'd;

Well fitted in arts, glorious in arms:

Nothing becomes him ill that he would well.

William Shakespeare

Love's Labour's Lost, II, i, 44

Love

A pair of star-cross'd lovers.

William Shakespeare

Romeo and Juliet, prologue, 6

Love

Absence makes the heart grow fonder.

Sextus Aurelius Propertius

Elegies, II, xxxiii, 43

Love

All for love, and nothing for reward.

Edmund Spenser

The Faerie Queene, II, 8, 2

Love

All lovers swear more performance than they are able, and yet reserve an ability that they never perform; vowing more than the perfection of ten, and discharging less than the tenth part of one.

William Shakespeare

Troilus and Cressida, III, ii, 89

Love

All the world loves a lover—except those who are waiting to use the phone.

Author Unknown

Love

An unloved child will do more harm to society than untreated sewage.

Author Unknown

Love

And I will make thee beds of roses

And a thousand fragrant posies.

Christopher Marlowe

The Passionate Shepherd to his Love

Love

And let her not look to find my love, as before; my love, which by her fault has dropped like a flower on the meadow's edge, when it has been touched by the plow passing by.

Gaius Valerius Catullus

Carmina, XI, 21

Love

And the true order of going, or being led by another, to the things of love, is to begin from the beauties of earth and mount upwards for the sake of that other beauty, using these steps only, and from one going on to two, and from two to all fair forms to fair practices, and from fair practices to fair notions, until from fair notions he arrives at the notion of absolute beauty, and at last knows what the essence of beauty is.

Plato

Dialogues, Symposium 211

Love

As lines, so loves oblique, may well

Themselves in every angle greet;

But ours, so truly parallel,

Though infinite, can never meet.

Andrew Marvell

The Definition of Love, 7

Love

Base men being in love have then a nobility in their natures more than is native to them.

William Shakespeare

Othello, II, i, 218

Love

Bring water, bring wind, boy! Bring flowering garlands to me! Yes, bring them, so that I may try a bout with love.

Anagreon

Fragment 27

Love

But as a philosopher said, one day after mastering the winds, the waves, the tides and gravity, after all the scientific and technological achievements, we shall harness for God the energies of love. And then, for the second time in the history of the world, man will have discovered fire.

R. Sargent Shriver, Jr., speech before the Democratic National Committee, accepting nomination as the Democratic candidate for vice president, Washington, D.C., August 8, 1972.—Transcript, The New York Times, August 9, 1972, p. 18.He was slightly paraphrasing Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, "The Evolution of Chastity," Toward the Future, trans. Rene Hague, pp. 86-87 (1975): "The day will come when, after harnessing the ether, the winds, the tides, gravitation, we shall harness for God the energies of love. And, on that day, for the second time in the history of the world, man will have discovered fire." This was written in Peking in 1934.

Love

Caresses, expressions of one sort or another, are necessary to the life of the affections as leaves are to the life of a tree. If they war wholly restrained love will die at the roots.

Nathaniel Hawthorne

Love

Come live with me, and be my Love;

And we will all the pleasures prove.

Christopher Marlowe

Love

Come live with me, and be my love;

And we will all the pleasures prove

That valleys, groves, hills, and fields,

Woods or steepy mountain yields.

Christopher Marlowe

The Passionate Shepherd to his Love

Love

Come live with me, and by my love,

And we will some new pleasures prove

Of golden sands, and crystal brooks,

With silken lines, and silver hooks.

John Donne

The Bait, 1

Love

Cras amet qui nunquam amavit quique amavit cras amet.

Tomorrow let him love who has never loved and tomorrow let him who has loved love.

Anonymous Latin

Pervigilium Veneris [A.D. c. 350], refrain

Love

Deathless Aphrodite on your rich-wrought throne.

Sappho

Fragment 1

Love

Divine Love always has met and always will meet every human need.

Mary Baker Eddy

Love

Do not keep the alabaster boxes of your love and tenderness sealed up until your friends are dead. Fill their lives with sweetness, speak cheering words while their ears can hear, and while their hearts can be thrilled and made happier by them.

George Williams Childs

Love

Doctor of a more scientific theology, professor of a purer and less harmful learning… a stranger with none but the uncivilized and ignoble, awakener of sleeping minds, tamer of presumptuous and obstinate ignorance who, in all respects, professes a general love of man, and cared not for the Italian more than for the Britan, male more than female, the mitre more than the crown, the toga more than the coat of mail, the cowled more than the uncowled; but loves who in intercourse is the more peaceable, polite, friendly and useful— (Brunus) whom only propagators of folly and hypocrites detest, whom the honourable and studious love, whom noble minds applaud.

Giordano Bruno

Card of credentials, presented to Oxford University, inviting a lectureship; quoted by Abramowitz, The Great Prisoners.

Love

Equal to the gods seems to me that man who sits facing you and hears you nearby sweetly speaking and softly laughing. This sets my heart to fluttering in my breast, for when I look on you a moment, then can I speak no more, but my tongue falls silent, and at once a delicate flame courses beneath my skin, and with my eyes I see nothing, and my ears hum, and a cold sweat bathes me, and a trembling seizes me all over, and I am paler than grass, and I feel that I am near to death.

Sappho

Fragment 2

Love

Every lover is a warrior, and Cupid has his camps.

Ovid [Publius Ovidius Naso]

Amores, I, ix, 1

Love

First love is only a little foolishness and a lot of curiosity: no really self-respecting woman would take advantage Of it.

George Bernard Shaw, John Bull's Other Island, act IV Selected Plays with Prefaces, vol. 2, p. 596 (1949). These words are spoken by Broadbent.

Love

For as well as I have loved thee, mine heart will not serve me to see thee, for through thee and me is the flower of kings and knights destroyed.

Sir Thomas Malory

Le Morte d'Arthur, XXI, 9

Love

For the Universe has three children, born at one time, which reappear under different names in every system of thought, whether they are called cause, operation and effect; or, more poetically, Jove, Pluto, Neptune; or, theologically, the Father, the Spirit and the Son; but which we will call here the Knower, the Doer and the Sayer. These stand respectively for the love of truth, for the love of good, and for the love of beauty. These three are equal.

The poets are thus liberating gods…. They are free, and they make free.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Essays: Second Series (1844), "The Poet"

Love

For thy sweet love remember'd such wealth brings

That then I scorn to change my state with kings.

William Shakespeare

Sonnet 29, 13

Love

For where is any author in the world

Teaches such beauty as a woman's eye?

Learning is but an adjunct to ourself.

William Shakespeare

Love's Labour's Lost, IV, iii, 312

Love

For, you see, each day I love you more,

Today more than yesterday and less than tomorrow.

(Car, vois-tu, chaque jour je t'aime davantage,

Aujourd'hui plus qu'hier et bien moins que demain.)

Rosemonde Gerard, "L'eternelle chanson," IX, Les Pipeaux.—P Dupre, Encyclopedic des Citations, p. 176 (1959).

Love

From their eyelids as they glanced dripped love.

Hesiod

Ib. 910

Love

Give a little love to a child, and you get a great deal back.

John Ruskin

Love

Hail wedded love, mysterious law, true source

Of human offspring.

John Milton

Paradise Lost, IV, 750

Love

He drew a circle that shut me out. Heretic, rebel, a thing to flout. But love and I had the wit to win, We drew a circle that took him in.

Edwin Markham

Love

He jests at scars, that never felt a wound.

But, soft! what light through yonder window breaks

It is the east, and Juliet is the sun!

William Shakespeare

Romeo and Juliet, II, ii, 1

Love

He who loves me, let him follow me.

Philip VI [Philip of Valois]

Love

He who loves the world as his body may be entrusted with the empire.

Lao Tzu

The Way of Lao Tzu 13

Love

Hearts are stronger than swords.

Wendell Phillips

Love

Hunger I can endure; love I cannot.

Claudian (Claudius Claudianus) (c. 375-408)

Carmina minora, xv

Love

I both love and do not love, and am mad and am not mad.

Anagreon

Fragment 79

Love

I have three treasures. Guard and keep them:

The first is deep love,

The second is frugality,

And the third is not to dare to be ahead of the world.

Because of deep love, one is courageous.

Because of frugality, one is generous.

Because of not daring to be ahead of the world,

one becomes the leader of the world.

Lao Tse

Love

I hold he loves me best that calls me Tom.

Thomas Heywood

Hierarchie of the Blessed Angels

Love

I hold it true, whate'er befall;

I feel it, when I sorrow most;

'Tis better to have loved and lost

Than never to have loved at all.

Alfred, Lord Tennyson, "In Memoriam A. H. H." [Arthur Henry Hallam], stanza 27, The Poetic and Dramatic Works of Alfred Lord Tennyson, p. 226 (1899).

Love

I humbly do beseech you of your pardon

For too much loving you.

William Shakespeare

Othello, III, iii, 2112

Love

I live and love in God's peculiar light.

Michelangelo

Sonnet

Love

I long to talk with some old lover's ghost,

Who died before the god of love was born.

John Donne

Love's Deity, 1

Love

I loved you once long ago, Athis…you seemed to me a small, ungainly child.

Sappho

Fragments 40-41

Love

I was in love with loving.

St. Augustine

Confessions, III, 1

Love

If all the world and love were young,

And truth in every shepherd's tongue,

These pretty pleasure might me move

To live with thee, and be thy love.

Sir Walter Raleigh

The Nymph's Reply to the Passionate Shepherd,

(printed in England's Helicon, 1600), st. 1

Love

If it be true that any beautiful thing raises the pure and just desire of man from earth to God, the eternal fount of all, such I believe my love.

Michelangelo (Buonarroti)

Sonnet

Love

If you press me to say why I loved him, I can say no more than it was because he was he and I was I.

Michel Eyquem de Montaigne

Essays, I, 27

Love

If you would be loved, love and be lovable.

Benjamin Franklin

Love

In fact, the whole passion ordinarily termed love (and heaven help me if I can think of any other term to apply to it) is of such exceeding triviality that I see nothing that I think comparable to it.

Marcus Tullius Cicero (106-43 B.C.)

Tusculanes Disputationes (47-44 B.C.)

Love

In lovers' quarrels, the party that loves most is always most willing to acknowledge the greater fault.

Sir Walter Scott

Love

Is your love for the Lord sufficient to give all your time and talents to his work?

Author Unknown

Love

It is difficult suddenly to lay aside a long-cherished love.

Gaius Valerius Catullus

Carmina, LXXVI, 13

Love

It is easier to mend neglect than to quicken love.

St. Jerome

Letter, 7

Love

It is man's peculiar duty to love even those who wrong him.

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

Meditations, VII, 22

Love

Journeys end in lovers meeting,

Every wise man's son doth know.

William Shakespeare

Twelfth-Night, II, iii, 46

Love

Julia: They do not love that do not show their love.

Lucetta: O! they love least that let men know their love.

William Shakespeare

The Two Gentlemen of Verona, I, ii, 31

Love

Jupiter laughs at the perjuries of lovers.

Albius Tibullus

Elegies, III, vi, 49

Love

Leave me, O Love, which reachest but to dust,

And thou, my mind, aspire to higher things;

Grow rich in that which never taketh rust:

Whatever fades, but fading pleasure brings.

Sir Philip Sidney

The Arcadia, III, Sonnet

Love

Let men tremble to win the hand of woman, unless they win along with it the utmost passion of her heart.

Nathaniel Hawthorne

Love

Let no more gods or exploiters be served. Let us learn rather to love one another.

Francisco Ferrer (1859-executed 1909)

Will, written on cell wall in Barcelona

Love

Love bade me welcome: yet my soul drew back,

Guilty of dust and sin.

But quick-ey'd Love, obvserving me grow slack

From my first entrance in,

Drew nearer to me, sweetly questioning,

If I lack'd anything.

George Herbert

The Temple. Love, 1

Love

Love calls to war;

Sighs his alarms,

Lips his swords are,

The field his arms.

George Chapman

Hero and Leander, Epithalamion Teratos, refrain

Love

Love can do all but raise the Dead….

Emily Dickinson (1830-1886)

No. 1731 (n.d.)

Love

Love comforteth like sunshine after rain.

William Shakespeare

Venus and Adonis, 799

Love

Love conquers all things; let us too surrender to Love.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Elogues, X, 69

Love

Love has power that dispels Death; charm that conquers the enemy.

Kahlil Gibran, "Peace," Tears and Laughter trans. Anthony R. Ferris, p. 30 (1949).

Love

Love hath so long possess'd me for his own

And made his lordship so familiar.

Dante Alighieri

La Vita Nuova

Love

Love in not to be purchased, and affection has no price.

St. Jerome

Letter, 3

Love

Love is a garment worn. Its delicate fabric is easily torn.

Author Unknown

Love

Love is a great thing, a good above all others which alone maketh every burden light,….Love is watchful, and whilst sleeping still keeps watch; though fatigued, it is not weary; though pressed, it is not forced….Love is…sincere…gentle, strong, patient, faithful, prudent, long-suffering, manly….Love is circumspect, humble, and upright; not weak, not fickle, nor intent on vain things; sober, chaste, steadfast, quiet, and guarded in all the senses.

Thomas A. Kempis

Love

Love is a sickness full of woes,

All remedies refusing.

Samuel Daniel

Hymen's Triumph

Love

Love is a spirit all compact of fire,

Not gross to sink, but light, and will aspire.

William Shakespeare

Venus and Adonis, 149

Love

Love is like a violin. The music may stop now and then, but the strings remain forever.

June Masters Bacher

Love

Love is proud of itself. It leaks out of us even with the tightest security.

Merritt Malloy

Love

Love is swift, sincere, pious, pleasant, gentle, strong, patient, faithful, prudent, long-suffering, manly and never seeking her own; for wheresoever a man seeketh his own, there he falleth from love.

Thomas A. Kempis

Imitation of Christ, III, 5

Love

Love is the magician, the enchanter, that changes worthless things to joy, and makes right royal kings and queens of common clay. It is the perfume of that wondrous flower, the heart, and without that sacred passion, that divine swoon, we are less than beasts; but with it, earth is heaven, and we are gods.

Robert G. Ingersoll, "Orthodoxy"' lecture, The Works of Robert G. Ingersoll, vol. 2, p. 420 (1929, reprinted 1978).

Love

Love is the motivating power given to us by the Lord to help us overcome the temptations of Satan.

Mark A. Peck

Love

Love is the purification of the heart from self; it strengthens and ennobles the character, gives higher motives and a nobler aim to every action of life, and makes both man and woman strong, noble and courageous.

Miss Jewsbury

Love

Love is to the moral nature what the sun is to the earth.

Honore de Balzac

Love

Love is ultimate concern.

Author Unknown

Love

Love kindled by virtue always kindles another, provided that its flame appear outwardly.

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy. Purgatorio, canto XXII, 10

Love

Love lodged in a woman's breast

Is but a guest.

Sir Henry Wotton

A Woman's Heart

Love

Love looks through a telescope; envy, through a microscope.

Josh Billings

Love

Love makes those young whom age doth chill,

And whom he finds young, keeps young still.

William Cartwright

To Chloe

Love

Love with delight discourses in my mind

Upon my lady's admirable gifts…

Beyond the range of human intellect.

Dante Alighieri

Il Convito. Trattato Terzo, 1

Love

Love yields to business. If you seek a way out of love, be bust; you'll be safe then.

Ovid [Publius Ovidius Naso]

Remedia Amoris, 143

Love

Love, which is quickly kindled in the gentle heart, seized this man for the fair form that was taken from me, and the manner still hurts me. Love, which absolves no beloved one from loving, seized me so strongly with his charm that, as thou seest, it does not leave me yet.

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy, Canto V, 100

Love

Love, who is most beautiful among the immortal gods, the melter of limbs, overwhelms in their hearts the intelligence and wise counsel of all gods and all men.

Hesiod

Love

Love-quarrels oft in pleasing concord end;

Not wedlock-treachery.

John Milton

Samson Agonistes, 1008

Love

Many can brook the weather that love not the wind.

William Shakespeare

Love's Labour's Lost, IV, ii, 34

Love

May never was the month of love,

For May is full of flowers;

But rather April, wet by kind,

For love is full of showers.

Robert Southwell

Love's Serville Lot

Love

Measure men around the heart.

Old Proverb

Love

My true-love hath my heart, and I have his,

By just exchange one for the other given:

I hold his dear, and mine he cannot miss,

There never was a better bargain driven.

Sir Philip Sidney

The Arcadia, III, Sonnet

Love

Nature's lay idiot, I taught thee to love.

John Donne

Elegy VII, Nature's Lay Idiot, 1

Love

No cord nor cable can so forcibly draw, or hold so fast, as love can do with a twined thread.

Robert Burton

Anatomy of Melancholy, III, 2, 1, 2

Love

No lover should have any insolence to think of being accepted at once, nor should any girl have the cruelty to refuse at once, without seven reasons.

John Ruskin

Love

Nor love thy life, nor hate; but what thou liv'st

Live well; how long or short permit to Heaven.

John Milton

Paradise Lost, XI, 553

Love

O spirit of love! how quick and fresh art thou,

That, notwithstanding thy capacity

Receiveth as the sea, nought enters there,

Of what validity and pitch soe'er,

But falls into abatement and low price,

Even in a minute: so full of shapes is fancy,

That it alone is high fantastical.

William Shakespeare

Twelfth-Night, I, i, 9

Love

O! how this spring of love resembleth

The uncertain glory of an April day!

William Shakespeare

The Two Gentelemen of Verona, I, iii, 84

Love

Of all the paths lead to a woman's love

Pity's the straightest.

John Fletcher

The Knight of Malta (in collaboration with Massinger), I, 1

Love

Oh, what a heaven is love! Oh, what a hell!

Thomas Dekker (1572-1632)

The Honest Whore (in collaboration with Thomas Middleton, 1604), Pt. 1

Love

One's love for God is equal to the love one has for the man he loves least.

John J. Hugo

Love

Physiological expenditure is a superficial way of self-expression. People who incline towards physical love accomplish nothing at all.

Salvador Dali

Love

Prosperity's the very bond of love,

Whose fresh complexion and whose heart together

Affliction alters.

William Shakespeare

The Winter's Tale, IV, iii, 586

Love

See! how she leans her cheek upon her hand:

O! that I were a glove upon that hand,

That I might touch that cheek.

William Shakespeare

Romeo and Juliet, II, ii, 23

Love

She who has never lov'd, has never liv'd.

John Gay (1688-1732)

The Captives (1724), Act 2

Love

She [Aphrodite] spoke and loosened from her bosom the embroidered girdle of many colors into which all her allurements were fashioned. In it was love and in it desire and in blandishing persuasion which steals the mind even of the wise.

Homer

The Iliad, XIV, 214

Love

Sir Henry Wotton…was a most dear lover, and a frequent practicer of the art of angling; of which he would say, "it was an employment for his idle time, which was then not idly spent…a rest to his mind, a cheerer of his spirits, a diverter of sadness, a calmer of unquiet thoughts, a moderator of passions, a procurer of contentedness; and that it begat habits of peace and patience in those that professed and practiced it.

Izaak Walton

The Compleat Anger, I, 1

Love

So dear I love him, that with him all deaths

I could endure, without him live no life.

John Milton

Paradise Lost, IX, 832

Love

Speak low, if you speak love.

William Shakespeare

Much Ado About Nothing, II, i, 104

Love

Sweet mother, I cannot ply the loom, vanquished by desire for a youth through the work of soft Aphrodite.

Sappho

Fragment 114

Love

Sweetest love, I do not go,

For weariness of thee,

Nor in hope the world can show

A fitter love for me;

But since that I

Must die at last, 'tis best,

To use my self in jest

Thus by feign'd deaths to die.

John Donne

Song, 1

Love

Take away love and our earth is a tomb.

Robert Browning

Love

Take heed of loving me.

John Donne

The Prohibition, 1

Love

The eyes those silent tongues of Love.

Miguel de Cervantes

Don Quixote, pt. I, II, 3, 65

Love

The final cause, then, produces motion through being loved.

Aristotle

Metaphysics, I, 7

Love

The first and highest law must be the love of man to man. Homo homini Deus est—this is the supreme practical maxim, this the turning point of the world's History.

Ludwig Feuerbach (1804-1872)

The Essence of Christianity (1841)

Love

The hind that would be mated by the lion

Must die for love.

William Shakespeare

All's Well That Ends Well, I, i, 103

Love

The power of Love, as the basis of a State, has never been tried….There will always be a government of force where men are selfish…

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Essays: Second Series (1844)

Love

The quarrels of lovers are the renewal of love.

Terence

Andria

Love

The ungrateful son is a wart on his father's face; to leave it is a blemish, to cut it off is painful.

Lao Tse

Love

Then fly betimes, for only they

Conquer Love that run away.

Thomas Carew

Poems. Conquest by Flight

Love

Then, let thy love be younger than thyself,

Or thy affection cannot hold the bent;

For women are as roses, whose fair flower

Being once display'd, doth fall that very hour.

William Shakespeare

Twelfth-Night, II, iv, 36

Love

There can be no excess to love, none to knowledge, none to beauty, when these attributes are considered in the purest sense.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Love

There is a land of the living and a land of the dead and the bridge is love, the only survival, the only meaning.

Thornton Wilder, The Bridge of San Luis Rey, final sentence, p. 148 (1967).

Love

There is no friendship, no love, like that of the parent for the child.

Henry Ward Beecher

Love

There was never any yet that wholly could escape love, and never shall there be any, never so long as beauty shall be, never so long as eyes can see.

Longus

Daphnis and Chloe, proem, ch. 2

Love

Therefore love moderately; long love doth so;

Too swift arrives as tardy as too slow.

William Shakespeare

Romeo and Juliet, II, vi, 14

Love

These are begot in the ventricle of memory, nourished in the womb of pia mater, and delivered upon the mellowing of occasion.

William Shakespeare

Love's Labour's Lost, IV, ii, 70

Love

This bud of love, by summer's ripening breath,

May prove a beauteous flower when next we meet.

William Shakespeare

Romeo and Juliet, II, ii, 121

Love

This day shall change all griefs and quarrels into love.

William Shakespeare

Love

This Extasie doth unperplex

(We said) and tell us what we love,

Wee see by this, it was not sexe,

Wee see, we saw not what did move:

But as all severall soules contain

Mixture of things, they know not what,

Love, these mixt souls, doth mixe againe.

Loves mysteries in soules doe grow,

But yet the body is his booke.

John Donne (1573-1631)

The Extasie" (c. 1593-1601)

Love

This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.

Jesus Christ (John 15:12)

Love

This is the one remedy for all ills. We must [love] and at once the impossible becomes possible….Let our affection flow out to our fellows; [and] it would operate in a day the greatest of all revolution….Love would put a new face on this weary…world…

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Love

This night of no moon

There is no way to meet him.

I rise in longing—

My breast pounds, a leaping flame

My heart is consumed in fire.

Ono No Komachi

Kokinshu

Love

This wimpled, whining, purblind, wayward boy,

This senior-junior, giant-dwarf, Dan Cupid;

Regent of love-rimes, lord of folded arms,

The anointed sovereign of sighs and groans,

Liege of all loiterers and malcontents.

William Shakespeare

Love's Labour's Lost, III, i, 189

Love

To be able to say how much you love is to love but little.

Petrarch

Love

To be able to say how much you love is to love but little.

Petrarch [Francesco Petrarca]

To Laura in Death, canzone 137

Love

To love is to admire with the heart; to admire is to love with the mind.

Théophile Gautier

Love

Too late I loved you, O Beauty so ancient yet ever new! Too late I loved you! And, behold, you were within me, and I out of myself, and there I searched for you.

St. Augustine

Confessions, X, 27

Love

We are most of us very lonely in this world; you who have any who love you, clig to them and thank God.

Author Unknown

Love

We are too ready to retaliate, rather than forgive….And yet we could hurt no Man that we believe loves us….What we love we'll trust….Love is the hardest Lesson in Christianity…

William Penn

Love

We women have, if I am not to lie,

In this love matter, a quaint fantasy;

Look out a thing we may not lightly have,

And after that we'll cry all day and crave.

Forbid a thing, and that thing covet we;

Press hard upon us, then we turn and flee.

Sparingly offer we our goods, when fair;

Great crowds at market make for dearer ware,

And what's too common brings but little price;

All this knows every woman who is wise.

Geoffrey Chaucer, Canterbury Tales: Wife of Bath's Prologue

Love

What a woman says to her ardent lover should be written in wind and running water.

Gaius Valerius Catullus

Carmina, LXX

Love

What is a kiss? Why this, as some approve:

The sure, sweet cement, glue, and lime of love.

Robert Herrick

Hesperides. A Kiss

Love

What life is there, what delight, without golden Aphrodite?

Mimnermus

Fragment 1

Love

When love is worn snugly, well wrapped about, the more wear you give it, the less it wears out.

Author Unknown

Love

Where we love is home—Home that our feet may leave, but not our hearts.

Oliver Wendell Holmes

Love

Wherefore I liken love nowadays unto summer and winter; for like as the one is hot and the other cold, so fareth love nowadays; therefore all ye that be lovers call unto your remembrance the month of May, like as did Queen Guenever, for whom I make here a little mention, that while she lived she was a true lover, and therefore she had a good end.

Sir Thomas Malory

Le Morte d'Arthur, XVIII, 25

Love

Whilst my physicians by their love are grown

Cosmographers, and I their map, who lie

Flat on this bed.

John Donne

Hymn to God My God, in My Sickness, 2

Love

Who can give law to lovers? Love is a greater law to itself.

Boethius

De Consolatione Philosophiae, III, 12, 47

Love

Who ever loves, if he do not propose

The right true end of love, he's one that goes

To sea for nothing but to make him sick.

John Donne

Elegy XVIII, Love's Progress, 1

Love

Years grow cold to love.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Georgics, III, 97

Love

Your heart is always harder than a stone.

Homer

Loyalty

HORSE SENSE

If you work for a man, in heaven's name, work for him. If he pays you wages that supply you your bread and butter, work for him, speak well of him, think well him, stand by him, and stand by the institution he represents. I think if I worked for a man, I would work for him. I would not work for him a part of his time, but all of his time. I would give an undivided service or none. If put to the pinch, an ounce of loyalty is worth a pound of cleverness. If you must vilify, condemn, and eternally disparage, why—resign your position. But I pray you, as long as you are a part of an institution, do not condemn it. Not that you will injure the institution—not that—but when you disparage the concern of which you are a part, you disparage yourself. And don't forget…"I forgot" won't do in business.

Elbert Hubbard

Luck

A stout heart breaks bad luck.

Miguel de Cervantes

Luck

Fortune is like glass—the brighter the glitter, the more easily broken.

Publilius Syrus

Luck

GIVE ME THE LUCKY AGENT

L—loyalty.

The underwriter must be loyal to his company at all times. The company in turn, must be loyal to the agent. And there must be loyalty between him and his General Agent.

U—understanding. The underwriter must understand that the product he sells is the only thing that takes the economic sting out of death—both economic death from disability and final death. He must understand a man's needs and he must understand the insurance business.

C—character. We have built the biggest business in the world, because there is character in it. There is faith between the insurance company and the family. Life insurance is a covenant between the client and the company, between the beneficiary and the company.

K—knowledge. As everyone knows but sometimes tends to forget, knowledge is power. Tomorrow will belong to the educated underwriter.

Y—yearning. This word is synonymous with learning. "The quintessence of successful living is desire—the pursuit of achievement and excellence."

L. E. Throgmorton

Luck

I am a great believer in luck. The harder I work the more of it I seem to have.

Coleman Cox

Luck

Ill luck, you know, seldom comes alone.

Miguel de Cervantes

Don Quixote, pt. I, III, 6, 135

Luck

It never occurs to fools that merit and good fortune are closely united.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Luck

No accidents are so unlucky but that the wise may draw some advantage from them; nor are there any so lucky but that the foolish may turn them to their own prejudice.

Francois Rochefoucauld

Luck

Until he is dead, do not yet call a man happy, but only lucky.

Solon

From Herodotus I, 32

Lies/Liars/Lying

A lie can travel half way around the world while the truth is putting on its shoes.

Mark Twain

Lies/Liars/Lying

All political parties die at last of swallowing their own lies.

John Arbuthnot

Lies/Liars/Lying

George Washington, as a boy, was ignorant of the commonest accomplishments of youth. He could not even lie.

Mark Twain

Lies/Liars/Lying

He who cannot lie does not know what the truth is.

Friedrich Nietzsche

Lies/Liars/Lying

He who permits himself to tell a lie once finds it much easier to do it a second and a third time till at length it becomes habitual.

Thomas Jefferson

Lies/Liars/Lying

I don't mind lying, but I hate inaccuracy.

Samuel Butler

Note-Books.

Lies/Liars/Lying

It is folly alone that stays the fugue of Youth and beats off louring Old Age.

Desiderius Erasmus

The Praise of Folly

Lies/Liars/Lying

Lying is forbidden, even to the detection of heretics.

St. Augustine

Against Lying.

Lies/Liars/Lying

She deceiving, I believing;

What need lovers wish for more?

Sir Charles Sedley

Lies/Liars/Lying

The cruelest lies are often told in silence.

Robert Louis Stevenson

Lies/Liars/Lying

The only form of lying that is absolutely beyond reproach is lying for its own sake.

Oscar Wilde

Lies/Liars/Lying

There is no greater lie than a truth misunderstood.

William James

Lies/Liars/Lying

When my love swears that she is made of truth,

I do believe her, though I know she lies.

William Shakespeare

Madness

A little madness in the Spring

Is wholesome even for the King.

Emily Dickinson

Madness

A mere madness, to live like a wretch and die rich.

Robert Burton

Anatomy of Melancholy, I, 2, 3, 12

Madness

Ah Corydon, Corydon, what madness has caught you?

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Eclogues, II, 69

Madness

As crazy as hauling timber into the woods.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Satires, I, x, 34

Madness

For that fine madness still he did retain

Which rightly should possess a poet's brain.

Michael Drayton

Said of Marlowe. To Henry Reynolds, Of Poets and Poesy

Madness

He's mad that trusts in the tameness of a wolf, a horse's health, a boy's love, or a whore's oath.

William Shakespeare

King Lear, III, vi, 20

Madness

It is better to be mad with the rest of the world than to be wise alone.

Baltasar Gracian

Madness

Most men are within a finger's breadth of being mad.

Diogenes

Madness

The madman who knows that he is mad is close to sanity.

Juan Ruiz de Alarcon

Madness

There is no genius free from some tincture of madness.

Seneca

Madness

There is pleasure sure

In being mad which none but madmen know.

John Dryden

The Spanish Friar

Madness

Today I felt pass over me

A breath of wind from the wings of madness.

Charles Baudelaire

Majority/Minority

A man with God is always in the majority.

John Knox

Inscription on Reformation Monument,

Geneva, Switzerland

Majority/Minority

How a minority,

Reaching majority,

Siezing authority,

Hates a minority!

Attributed to Leonard Harman Robbins, Minorities.—Bergen Evans, Dictionary of Quotations, p. 423 (1968). Unverified.

Majority/Minority

It is quite plain that your government will never be able to restrain a distressed and discontented majority. For with you the majority is the government, and has the rich, who are always a minority, absolutely at its mercy.

Thomas Babington Macaulay, letter to Henry Stephens Randall, May 23, 1857.—The Letters of Thomas Babington Macaulay, ed. Thomas Pinney, vol. 6, p. 95 (1981).

Majority/Minority

Let historians not record that when America was the most powerful nation in the world we passed on the other side of the road and allowed the last hopes for peace and freedom of millions of people to be suffocated by the forces of totalitarianism. And so tonight—to you, the great silent majority of my fellow Americans—I ask for your support.

President Richard M. Nixon, address to the Nation on the Vietnam war, November 3, 1969.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Richard Nixon, 1969, p. 909.William Safire claims that this televised speech had a great effect on public opinion and bought time for the Vietnamization program, effectively countering mounting dissent to the war. Safire discusses Nixon's earlier uses of the "silent center."—Safire's Political Dictionary, p. 649-50 (1978).

Majority/Minority

One with the law is a majority.

Calvin Coolidge, governor of Massachusetts, speech accepting nomination as Republican candidate for vice president, Northampton, Massachusetts, July 27, 1920, as reported by The New York Times, July 28, 1920, p. 6.

Majority/Minority

We aim at something more sublime and more equitable—the common good, or the community of goods….We demand, we would have, the communal enjoyment of the fruits of the earth, fruits which are for everyone.

Francois Emile (Gracchus) Babeuf

Manifesto of the Equals.

Majority/Minority

Governments exist to protect the rights of minorities.

Wendell Phillips

Man/Mankind/Humankind

29…. You must be one man, good or bad; you must develop either your Governing Principle, or your outward endowments; you must study either your inner man, or outward things—in a word, you must choose between the position of a philosopher and that of a mere outsider.

Epictetus (c. 50-120 A.D.)

The Manual of Epictetus (The Encheiridion)

Man/Mankind/Humankind

The condition of man…is a condition of war of everyone against everyone.

Thomas Hobbes

Leviathan, I, 4

Man/Mankind/Humankind

The best of men

That e'er wore earth about him, was a sufferer,

A soft, meek, patient, humble, tranquil spirit,

The first true gentleman that ever breathed.

Thomas Dekker

The Honest Whore, pt. I, I, 2

Man/Mankind/Humankind

A bold bad man.

Edmund Spenser

The Faerie Queene, I, 1, 37

Man/Mankind/Humankind

A generation of men is like a generation of leaves: the wind scatters some leaves upon the ground, while others the burgeoning wood brings forth—and the season of spring comes on. So of men one generation springs forth and another ceases.

Homer

The Iliad, VI, 146

Man/Mankind/Humankind

A good old man, sir; he will be talking: as they say, When the age is is, the wit is out.

William Shakespeare

Much Ado About Nothing, III, v, 36

Man/Mankind/Humankind

A great man left a watchword that we can well repeat: "There is no indispensable man."

Franklin D. Roosevelt, governor of New York, campaign address before the Republican-for-Roosevelt League, New York City, November 3, 1932.—The Public Papers and Addresses of Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1928-1932, p. 860 (1938).The man whom Roosevelt quotes is probably Macaulay. See No. 1151.

Man/Mankind/Humankind

A man is a god in ruins.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Nature (1836)

Man/Mankind/Humankind

A man is the origin of his action.

Aristotle

Nicomachean Ethics, III, 3

Man/Mankind/Humankind

A man may fish with the worm that hath eat of a king, and eat of the fish that hath fed of that worm.

William Shakespeare

Hamlet, IV, iii, 29

Man/Mankind/Humankind

A man thinks differently in a palace and in a hut.

Ludwig Feuerbach (1804-1872)

The Essence of Religion (1845)

Man/Mankind/Humankind

A young man is embarrassed to question an older one.

Homer

The Odyssey, III, 24

Man/Mankind/Humankind

According as the man is, so must you humor him.

Terence [Publius Terentius Afer]

Adelphoe (The Brothers), 431

Man/Mankind/Humankind

…for nothing has ever been more insurmountable for a man and a human society than freedom.

Fyodor Dostoyevski (1821-1881)

The Brothers Karamazov (1880)

Man/Mankind/Humankind

All men are liable to error; and most men are, in many points, by pasion or interest, under temptation to it.

John Locke

Essay Concerning Human Understanding, II, 20, 17

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Although I am a pious man, I am not the less a man.

Molière [Jean Baptiste Poquelin]

Tartuffe, III, 3

Man/Mankind/Humankind

As no man is born an artist, so no man is born an angler.

Izaak Walton

The Compleat Angler. Epistle to the Reader

Man/Mankind/Humankind

…when not one man, in the million, shall I say? no, not in the hundred million, can rise above the belief that Woman was made for Man,—when such traits as these are daily forced upon the attention, can we feel that Man will always do justice to the interests of Woman?….The lover, the poet, the artist, are likely to view her nobly. The father and the philosopher have some chance of liberality; the man of the world, the legislator for expedience, none.

(Sarah) Margaret Fuller, Marchioness Ossoli

Woman in the Nineteenth Century (1845)

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Be neither saint nor sophist led, but be a man.

Matthew Arnold

Man/Mankind/Humankind

But he, mighty man, lay mightily in the whirl of dust, forgetful of his horsemanship.

Homer

The Iliad, XVI, 775

Man/Mankind/Humankind

But there are other things which a man is afraid to tell even to himself, and every decent man has a number of such things, stored away in his mind….A man's true autobiography is almost an impossibility…man is bound to lie about himself.

Fyodor Dostoyevski (1821-1881)

The Diary of a Writer (1873)

Man/Mankind/Humankind

But what is man? Shall I say a rational animal? Assuredly not….

René Descartes (1596-1650)

Meditationes de prima philosophia (1629-1639)

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Cruel men are the greatest lovers of mercy, avaricious men of generosity, and proud men of humility; that is to say in others, not in themselves.

Charles C. Colton

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Descartes said: "I think, therefore I am." Helvetius wants to say: "I feel, therefore I want to feel pleasantly." I prefer Hobbes who claims that in order to draw a conclusion which takes us somewhere, we must say, "I feel, I think, I judge; therefore, a part of organized matter like me is capable of feeling, thinking, and judging."

Denis Diderot (1713-1784)

"On Man" (a refutation of Helvetius' work, 1774)

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Didst thou forget that man prefers peace, and even death, to freedom of choice in the knowledge of good and evil?

Fyodor Dostoyevski (1821-1881)

The Brothers Karamazov (1880), Bk. V, ch. 5

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Don Juan: I said, with the foolish philosopher, "I think; therefore I am." It was a woman who taught me to say "I am; therefore I think."

Bernard Shaw, Man and Superman (1903), Act III

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Even to a wicked man a divintiy gives wealth, Cyrnus, but to few men comes the gift of excellence.

Theognis

Elegies, 149

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Every actual animal is somewhat dull and somewhat mad. He will at times miss his signals and stare vacantly when he might well act, while at other times he will run off into convulsions and raise a dust in his own brain to no purpose. These imperfections are so human that we should hardly recognise ourselves if we could shake them off altogether. Not to retain any dulness would mean to possess untiring attention and universal interests, thus realising the boast about deeming nothing human alien to us; while to be absolutely without folly would involve perfect self-knowledge and self-control. The intelligent man known to history flourishes within a dullard and holds a lunatic in leash. He is encased in a protective shell of ignorance and insensibility which keeps him from being exhausted and confused by this too complicated world; but that integument blinds him at the same time to many of his nearest and highest interests. He is amused by the antics of the brute dreaming within his breast; he gloats on his passionate reveries, an amusement which sometimes costs him very dear. Thus the best human intelligence is still decidely barbarous; it fights in heavy armour and keeps a fool at court.

George Santayana, The Life of Reason, vol. 1, chapter 2, pp. 50-51 (1905).

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Every man is as Heaven made him, and sometimes a great deal worse.

Miguel de Cervantes

Don Quixote, pt. II, III, 4, 468

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Every man was not born with a silver spoon in his mouth.

Miguel de Cervantes

Don Quixote, pt. II, IV, 73, 926

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Every man will be a poet if he can; otherwise a philosopher or man of science. This proves the superiority of the poet.

Henry David Thoreau, journal entry, April 11, 1852.—The Heart of Thoreau's Journals, ed. Odell Shepard, p. 126 (1927).

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Everyone is really responsible to all men for all men and for everything.

Fyodor Dostoyevski (1821-1881)

The Brothers Karamazov (1880), Pt. II, bk. VI

Man/Mankind/Humankind

For a man's house is his castle, et domus sua cuique tutissimum refugium.

Sir Edward Coke

Third Institute

Man/Mankind/Humankind

He said: The proper man understands equity, the small man profits.

Confucius (551-479 B.C.)

Analects (tr. Ezra Pound), Bk. IV, 6

Man/Mankind/Humankind

He was a wealthy man, and kindly to his fellow men; for dwelling in a house by the side of the road, he used to entertain all comers.

Homer

The Iliad, VI, 14

Man/Mankind/Humankind

He who moves not forward, goes backward.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832)

Herman und Dorothea (1797)

Man/Mankind/Humankind

I decline to accept the end of man. It is easy enough to say that man is immortal simply because he will endure: that when the last ding-dong of doom has clanged and faded from the last worthless rock hanging tideless in the last red and dying evening, that even then there will still be one more sound: that of his puny inexhaustible voice, still talking. I refuse to accept this. I believe that man will not merely endure: he will prevail. He is immortal, not because he alone among creatures has an inexhaustible voice, but because he has a soul, a spirit capable of compassion and sacrifice and endurance. The poet's, the writer's, duty is to write about these things. It is his privilege to help man endure by lifting his heart, by reminding him of the courage and honor and hope and pride and compassion and pity and sacrifice which have been the glory of his past. The poet's voice need not merely be the record of man, it can be one of the props, the pillars to help him endure and prevail.

William Faulkner, address upon receiving the Nobel Prize for literature, Stockholm, Sweden, December 10, 1950.—Faulkner, Essays, Speeches & Public Letters, p. 120 (1951).This text is from Faulkner's original typescript; it was slightly revised from that which he delivered in Stockholm, and which was published in American newspapers at the time (p. 121).

Man/Mankind/Humankind

I fully subscribe to the judgment of those writers who maintain that of all the differences between man and the lower animals, the moral sense of conscience is by far the most important…. It is the most noble of all the attributes of man.

Charles (Robert) Darwin (1809-1882)

The Descent of Man (1871)

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Idle men are dead all their Life long.

Thomas Fuller (1654-1734)

Gnomologia (1732), No. 3055

Man/Mankind/Humankind

If a man is at heart just, then in so far is he God; the safety of God, the immortality of God, the majesty of God do enter into that man with justice.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Addresses and Lectures, Vol. I, "An Address" (1838)

Man/Mankind/Humankind

It is not the hand but the understanding of a man that may be said to write.

Miguel de Cervantes

Don Quixote, pt. II, author's preface, 441

Man/Mankind/Humankind

It is said that Napoleon lost the battle of Waterloo because he forgot his infantry—he staked too much upon the more spectacular but less substantial calvary. The present administration in Washington provides a close parallel. It has either forgotten or it does not want to remember the infantry of our economic army. These unhappy times call for the building of plans that rest upon the forgotten, the unorganized but the indispensable units of economic power, for plans like those of 1917 that build from the bottom up and not from the top down, that put their faith once more in the forgotten man at the bottom of the economic pyramid.

Franklin D. Roosevelt, governor of New York, radio address, Albany, New York, April 7, 1932.—The Public Papers and Addresses of Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1928-1932, pp.624-25 (1938).

Man/Mankind/Humankind

It is too little to call man a little world; Except God, man is a diminutive to nothing.

John Donne (1573-1631)

Meditations, Mediation IV

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Make no more giants, God!

But elevate the race at once!

Robert Browning, "Paracelsus," part 1, Poems, vol. 1, p. 29 (1850).

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Man has only a thin layer of soil between himself and starvation.

Attributed to Bard of Cincinnati. Unverified.

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Man in sooth is a marvelous vain, fickle, and unstable subject.

Michel Eyquem de Montaigne

Essays, I, 1

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Man is a political animal.

Aristotle

Politics, 1.

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Man is about to be an automaton; he is identifiable only in the computer. As a person of worth and creativity, as a being with an infinite potential, he retreats and battles the forces that make him inhuman.

The dissent we witness is a reaffirmation of faith in man; it is protest against living under rules and prejudices and attitudes that produce the extremes of wealth and poverty and that make us dedicated to the destruction of people through arms, bombs, and gases, and that prepare us to think alike and be submissive objects for the regime of the computer.

Justice William O. Douglas, Points of Rebellion, pp. 32-33 (1970).

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Man is an embodied paradox, a bundle of contradictions; and some set off against the marvelous things that he has done, we might fairly adduce the monstrous thing that he has believed.

Charles Caleb Colton (1780-1832)

The Lacon (1829)

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Man is by nature a social animal, and an individual who is unsocial naturally and not accidentally is either beneath our notice or more than human. Society is something in nature that precedes the individual. Anyone who either cannot lead the common life or is so self-sufficient as not to need to, and therefore does not partake of society, is either a beast or he is a god.

Aristotle

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Man is certainly stark mad; he cannot make a worm, and yet he will be making gods by dozens.

Michel Eyquem de Montaigne

Essays, II, 12

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Man is more courageous, pugnacious and energetic than woman, and has a more inventive genius. His brain is absolutely larger, but whether or not proportionately to his larger body, has not, I believe, been fully ascertained.

Charles (Robert) Darwin (1809-1882)

The Descent of Man (1871), Ch. 8

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Man is neither angel nor beast; and the misfortune is that he who would act the angel acts the beast.

Blaise Pascal

Pensees, 358

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Man is only truly great when he acts from the passions.

Benjamin Disraeli (Earl of Beaconsfield) (1804-1881)

Coningsby (1844), Book iv, Ch. 13

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Man is timid and apologetic; he is no longer upright; he dares not say "I think," "I am," but he quotes some saint or sage.

Ralph Waldo Emerson, "Self-Reliance" (1841)

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Man may escape from rope and gun;

Nay, some have outliv'd the doctor's pill;

Who takes a woman must be undone,

That basilisk is sure to kill.

John Gay (1688-1732)

The Beggar's Opera (1728), Act 2, sc. 8

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Man the machine—man the impersonal engine. Whatsoever a man is, is due to his make, and to the influence brought to bear upon it by his heredities, his habitat, his associations. He is moved, corrected, COMMANDED, by exterior influences—solely. He originates nothing, not even a thought.

Samuel L. Clemens ("Mark Twain") (1835-1910)

What is Man (published posthumously, 1917)

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Man's destructive hand spares nothing that lives; he kills to feed himself, he kills to clothe himself, he kills to adorn himself, he kills to attack, he kills to defend himself, he kills to instruct himself, he kills to amuse himself, he kills for the sake of killing.

Joseph de Maistre (1753-1821)

Considérations sur la France (1796)

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Man's greatest tyrants are his wife and children.

Euripides (485-406 B.C.)

Oedipus, Fragment 5

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Man, created to God's image and likeness (Gen. 1:26-27), is not just flesh and blood. The sexual instinct is not all that he has. Man is also, and pre-eminently, intelligent and free; and thanks to these powers he is, and must remain, superior to the rest of creation; they give him mastery over his physical, psychological and affective appetites.

Pope Paul VI, encyclical on priestly celibacy (Sacerdotalis Caelibatus), paragraph 53, June 24, 1967.—Catholic Mind, October 1967, pp. 56-57.

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Man, when perfected, is the best of animals; but when isolated he is the worst of all; for injustice is more dangerous when armed, and man is equipped at birth with the weapons of intelligence, and with qualities of character which he may use for the vilest ends. Wherefore if he have not virtue he is the most unholy and savage of animals, full of gluttony and lust.

Aristotle

Politics, 1.

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Manhood begins when we have in any way made truce with Necessity; begins even when we have surrendered to Necessity, as the most part only do; but begins joyfully and hopefully only when we have reconciled ourselves to Necessity; and thus, in reality, triumphed over it, and felt that in Necessity we are free.

Thomas Carlyle, "Burns," Critical and Miscellaneous Essays, vol. 1 (vol. 29 of The Works of Thomas Carlyle, ed. H. D. Traill), p. 295 (1899, reprinted 1969). Book review in the Edinburgh Review, no. 96, 1828.

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Mankind which began in a cave and behind a windbreak will end in the disease-soaked ruins of a slum.

H. G. Wells, The Fate of Man, chapter 26, p. 247 (1939, reprinted 1970).

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Manners maketh man.

William of Wykeham

Motto of his two foundations, Winchester College and New

College, Oxford

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Measures not men.

Philip Dormer Stanhope,

4th Earl of Chesterfield (1694-1773)

Letters to His Son, March 6, 1742

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Men are born and remain free and equal in rights. Social distinctions can be based only upon public utility.

France (Official and semi-official)

Declarations of the Rights of Man and Citizen, National Assembly (1789), Art. 1

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Men are marked out from the moment of birth to rule or be ruled.

Aristotle

Politics, 1.

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Men are men before they are lawyers, or physicians, or merchants, or manufacturers; and if you make them capable and sensible men, they will make themselves capable and sensible lawyers or physicians.

John Stuart Mill, inaugural address to the University of St. Andrews, St. Andrews, Scotland, February 1, 1867.—Dissertations and Discussions, vol. 4, p. 335 (1868).

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Men are most apt to believe what they least understand.

Michel Eyquem de Montaigne

Essays, III, 11

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Men decide many more problems by hate, love, lust, rage, sorrow, joy, hope, fear, illusion, or some similar emotion, than by reason (veritate) or authority or any legal standards, or legal precedents, or law.

Marcus Tullius Cicero (106-43 B.C.)

De Oratore (55 B.C.), ii, 178

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Men shut their doors against a setting sun.

William Shakespeare

Timon of Athens, I, ii, 152

Man/Mankind/Humankind

My men, like satyrs grazing on the lawns,

Shall with their goat feet dance the antic hay.

Christopher Marlowe

Edward II, Act I, Sc. I

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Nearly all men die of their remedies, and not of their illnesses.

Molière [Jean Baptiste Poquelin]

Le Malade Imaginaire, III, 3

Man/Mankind/Humankind

No man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main; if a clod be washed away by the sea, Europe is the less, as well as if a promontory were, as well as if a manor of thy friends or of thine own were; any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind; and therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee.

John Donne

Devotions XVII

Man/Mankind/Humankind

No man is wholly free. He is a slave to wealth, or to fortune, or the laws, or the people restrain him from acting according to his will alone.

Euripides (485-406 B.C.)

Hecuba (c. 425 B.C.)

Man/Mankind/Humankind

No particular man is necessary to the state. We may depend on it that, if we provide the country with popular institutions, those institutions will provide it with great men.

Thomas Babington Macaulay, speech on parliamentary reform, March 2, 1831.—The Complete Writings of Lord Macaulay, vol. 17, p. 14 (1900).

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Not because Socrates said so, but because it is in truth my own disposition—and perchance to some excess—I look upon all men as my compatriots, and embrace a Pole as Frenchman, making less account of the national than of the universal and common bond.

Michel Eyquem de Montaigne

Essays, III, 9

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Nothing is so cruel as a man raised from lowly station to prosperity.

Claudian (Claudius Claudianus) (c. 375-408)

In Eutropium, 181

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Of all the animals, the boy is the most unmanageable.

Plato

Laws, 808

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Of all the causes which have led to the differences in external appearance between the races of man and to a certain extent between man and the lower animals, sexual selection has been the most efficient.

Charles (Robert) Darwin (1809-1882)

The Descent of Man (1871), Ch. 21

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Plato having defined man to be a two-legged animal without feathers, Diogenes plucked a cock and brought it into the Academy, and said, "This is Plato's man." On which account this addition was made to the definition: "With broad flat nails."

Diogenes The Cynic

From Diogenes Laertius, Diogenes, 6

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Sits he on never so high a throne, a man still sits on his bottom.

Michel Eyquem de Montaigne

Essays, III, 13

Man/Mankind/Humankind

That disease of which all old men sicken—avarice.

Thomas Middleton

The Roaring Girl, I, 1

Man/Mankind/Humankind

The ape, vilest of beasts, how like to us.

Quintus Ennius

From Cicero, De Natura Deorum, I, 35

Man/Mankind/Humankind

The awareness that we are all human beings together has become lost in war and through politics.

Albert Schweitzer, radio appeal for peace, Oslo, Norway, April 30, 1958.—Schweitzer, Peace or Atomic War?, p. 44 (1972).This was the third of three appeals broadcast April 28, 29, and 30, 1958.

Man/Mankind/Humankind

The drunken man is a living corpse.

St. Joannes Chrysostomus (St. John Chrysostom) (345?-407)

Homilies (c. 388)

Man/Mankind/Humankind

The fact that man knows right from wrong proves his intellectual superiority to the other creatures; but the fact that he can do wrong proves his moral inferiority to any creature that cannot.

Samuel Langhorne Clemens ("Mark Twain") (1835-1910)

What is Man (published posthumously, 1917)

Man/Mankind/Humankind

The idea of a universal and beneficent Creator does not seem to arise in the mind of man, until he has been elevated by long-continued culture.

Charles (Robert) Darwin (1809-1882)

The Descent of Man (1871), Ch. 5

Man/Mankind/Humankind

The man who anticipates his century is always persecuted when living, and is always pilfered when dead.

Benjamin Disraeli (Earl of Beaconsfield) (1804-1881)

Vivian Grey (1826)

Man/Mankind/Humankind

The man who in the view of gain thinks of righteousness; who in the view of danger is prepared to give up his life; and who does not forget an old agreement however far back it extends—such a man may be reckoned a complete man.

Confucius

The Confucian Analects, 14:13, ii

Man/Mankind/Humankind

The Simiadae then branched off into two great stems, the New World and old World monkeys; and from the latter at a remote period, Man, the wonder and the glory of the universe, proceeded.

Charles (Robert) Darwin (1809-1882)

The Descent of Man (1871), Ch. 6

Man/Mankind/Humankind

The speech of man is like embroidered tapestries, since like them this too has to be extended in order to display its patterns, but when it is rolled up it conceals and distorts them.

Themistocles

From Plutarch, Lives, Themistocles, 29

Man/Mankind/Humankind

There is a great deal of human nature in man.

Charles Kingsley, At Last, chapter 2 (The Works of Charles Kingsley, vol. 14), p. 49 (1880-1885, reprinted 1969). Kingsley quotes this as said by "the wise Yankee." In 1862, Artemus Ward (Charles Farrar Browne) had published Artemus Ward: His Book (reprinted 1964), and in "Thrilling Scenes from Dixie," p. 202, says, "There's considerable human nater in a man."

Man/Mankind/Humankind

They say an old man is twice a child.

William Shakespeare

Hamlet, II, ii, 413

Man/Mankind/Humankind

They that deny God destroy men's nobility.

Leonard Bacon

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Thou art slave to fate, chance, kings, and desperate men.

John Donne

Holy Sonnets, X, 9

Man/Mankind/Humankind

We all are blind until we see

That in the human plan

Nothing is worth the making if

It does not make the man.

Why build these cities glorious

If man unbuilded goes?

In vain we build the world, unless

The builder also grows.

Edwin Markham, "Man-Making," Poems of Edwin Markham, p. 6 (1950).

Man/Mankind/Humankind

What do you call Love, Hate, Charity, Revenge, Humanity, Magnanimity, Forgiveness?

Different results of the one Master Impulse: the necessity of securing one's self-approval.

Samuel Langhorne Clemens ("Mark Twain") (1835-1910)

What is Man (published posthumously, 1917)

Man/Mankind/Humankind

What tho' the spicy breezes

Blow soft o'er Ceylon's isle;

Though every prospect pleases,

And only man is vile?

Reginald Heber, "From Greenland's Icy Mountains" (hymn), From Greenland's Icy Mountains, p. 23 (1884).

Man/Mankind/Humankind

What's a wretched man? A man whom no man pleases.

Martial [Marcus Valerius Martialis]

Epigrams, V, 28

Man/Mankind/Humankind

When I die, my epitaph or whatever you call those signs on gravestones is going to read: "I joked about every prominent man of my time, but I never met a man I didn't like." I am so proud of that I can hardly wait to die so it can be carved. And when you come to my grave you will find me sitting there, proudly reading it.

Will Rogers.—Paula McSpadden Love, The Will Rogers Book, pp. 166-67 (1972)."One of his most famous and most quoted remarks. First printed in the Boston Globe, June 16, 1930, after he had attended Tremont Temple Baptist Church, where Dr. James W Brougher was minister. He asked Will to say a few words after the sermon. The papers were quick to pick up the remark, and it stayed with him the rest of his life. He also said it on various other occasions" (p. 167).

The author was a niece of Will Rogers's and curator of the Will Rogers Memorial in Claremore, Oklahoma.

Man/Mankind/Humankind

When men can freely communicate their thoughts and their sufferings, real or imaginary, their passions spend themselves in air, like gunpowder scattered upon the surface—but pent up by terrors, they work unseen, burst forth in a moment, and destroy everything in their course. Let reason be opposed to reason, and argument to argument, and every good government will be safe.

Thomas Erskine (1750-1823)

Defense of Thomas Paine (December 20, 1792)

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Who can be wise, amaz'd, temperate and furious,

Loyal and neutral, in a moment? No man.

William Shakespeare

Macbeth, II, iii, 115

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Who is wise? He that learns from every One. Who is powerful? He that governs his Passions. Who is rich? He that is content. Who is that? Nobody.

Benjamin Franklin, "Poor Richard's Almanack," July 1755, The Complete Poor Richard Almanacks, facsimile ed., vol. 2, p. 270 (1970).

Man/Mankind/Humankind

With savages the weak in body or mind are soon eliminated. We civilized men, on the other hand, do our utmost to check the process of elimination…. There is reason to believe that vaccination has preserved thousands, who from a weak constitution would formerly have succumbed to smallpox. Thus the weak members of civilized society propagate their kind. No one who has attended to the breeding of domestic animals will doubt that this must be highly injurious to the race of men.

Charles (Robert) Darwin (1809-1882)

The Descent of Man (1871)

Man/Mankind/Humankind

[Of two suitors for his daughter's hand] I choose the likely man in preference to the rich man; I want a man without money rather than money without a man.

Themistocles

From Plutarch, Lives, Themistocles, sec. 18

Man/Mankind/Humankind

"Darwin never proposed that humankind is descended from monkeys…. human beings and monkeys have a common ancestor." Nor does "survival of the fittest" mean of the strongest. "That organism survives, in Darwin's terms, which is best suited to its environs…. " Darwin never claimed the theory of evolution original, "nor did Darwin ever try to prove that men are descended from apes." Aristotle, according to Darwin, "shadowed forth" natural selection.

Burnham

The Dictionary of Misinformation

Man/Mankind/Humankind

It is better to be an old man's darling than a young man's warling.

John Heywood

Proverbs, pt. II, ch. 7

Man/Mankind/Humankind

A man is rich in proportion to the things he can afford to let alone.

Henry David Thoreau

Man/Mankind/Humankind

After three days men grow weary of a wench, a guest, and rainy weather.

Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790)

Poor Richard's Almanac, 1733

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Ah, how unjust to nature and himself

Is thoughtless, thankless, inconsistent man!

Edward Young

Man/Mankind/Humankind

All censure of a man's self is oblique praise.

Samuel Johnson

Man/Mankind/Humankind

All mankind is of one author, and is one volume; when one man dies, one chapter is not torn out of the book, but translated into a better language; and every chapter must be so translated; God emploies several translators; some pieces are translated by age, some by sickness, some by war, some by justice; but God's hand is in every translation; and his hand shall bind up all our scattered leaves again, for that library where every book shall lie open to one another.

John Donne (1573-1631)

Devotions (1623)

Man/Mankind/Humankind

All men know the utility of useful things; but they do not know the untility of futility.

Chuang Tzu

This Human World

Man/Mankind/Humankind

All the doings of mankind, their wishes, fears, anger, pleasures, joys, and varied pursuits, form the motley subject of my book.

Decimus Junius Juvenal

Satires, I, 85

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Apart from man, no being wonders at its own existence.

Arthur Schopenhauer

Man/Mankind/Humankind

At last gleams of light have come, and I am almost convinced that species are not (it is like confessing a murder) immutable.

Charles (Robert) Darwin (1809-1882)

The Voyage Of The Beagle (1859)

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Benevolence, righteousness, propriety, and knowledge are not infused into us from without.

Mencius

Book VI, 1:6.7

Man/Mankind/Humankind

But men are better than their theology. Their daily life gives it the lie.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Essays: First Series (1841)

Man/Mankind/Humankind

By nature, men are nearly alike; by practice, they get to be wide apart.

Confucius

The Confucian Analects, 17:2

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Creatures of a day, what is a man? What is he not? Mankind is a dream of a shadow. But when a god-given brightness comes, a radiant light rests on men, and a gentle life.

Pindar

Pythian Odes VIII, 135

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Even as the generations of leaves, so are also those of men. As for the leaves, the wind scatters some upon the earth, but the forest as it buds brings forth new leaves when the spring is come; even so one generation of men arises and another passes away.

Homer

Man/Mankind/Humankind

He is a poor creature who does not believe himself to be better than the whole world else no matter how ill we may be, nor how low we may have fallen, we should not change identity with any other person.

Samuel Butler

Man/Mankind/Humankind

He that accuses all mankind of corruption ought to remember that he is sure to convict only one.

Edmund Burke

Man/Mankind/Humankind

He who ascends to mountain tops, shall find

The loftiest peaks most wrapped in clouds and snow;

He who surpasses or subdues mankind,

Must look down on the hate of those below.

Lord Byron

Childe Harold's Pilgrimage, 1809-1817.

Man/Mankind/Humankind

His [man's] history is as a tale that is told, and his very monument becomes a ruin.

Washington Irving

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Human life is limited, but knowledge is limitless. To drive the limited in pursuit of the limitless is fatal; and to presume that one really knows is fatal indeed!

Chuang-Tzu (4th-3rd century B.C.)

The Preservation of Life (tr. Lin Yutang)

Man/Mankind/Humankind

I admire Confucius. He was the first man who did not receive a divine inspiration.

Voltaire

Man/Mankind/Humankind

I hate the common herd of men and keep them afar. Let there be sacred silence: I, the Muses' priest, sing for girls and boys songs not heard before.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Odes, III, i, 1

Man/Mankind/Humankind

I know of no more encouraging fact than the unquestionable ability of man to elevate his life by a conscious endeavor.

Henry David Thoreau

Man/Mankind/Humankind

I sometimes think that God in creating man somewhat overestimated His ability.

Oscar Wilde

Man/Mankind/Humankind

If in the course of this great battle for the emancipation of the human race we should fall, those now in the rear will step forward; and we shall fall with the consciousness of having done our duty as human beings, and with the conviction that the goal will be reached, however the powers hostile to humanity may struggle or strain in resistance. Ours is the world, despite everything; that is, for the workers and the women.

August Bebel

Woman.

Man/Mankind/Humankind

In the days of perfect nature, man lived together with birds and beasts, and there was no distinction of their kind. Who could know of the distinctions between gentlemen and common people? Being all equally without desires, they were in a state of natural integrity, the people did not lose their [original] nature.

And then when Sages appeared, crawling for charity and limping with duty, doubt and confusion entered men's minds. They said they must make merry by means of music and enforce distinctions by means of ceremony, and the empire became divided against itself….Were Tao and virtue not destroyed, what use would there be for charity and duty? Were men's natural instincts not lost, what need would there be for music and ceremonies?….Destruction of the natural integrity of these things for the production of articles of various kinds—this is the fault of the artisan.. Destruction of Tao and virtue in order to introduce charity and duty—this is the error of the Sages.

Chuang Tzu

Horses' Hoofs

Man/Mankind/Humankind

It is because nations tend to stupidity and baseness that mankind moves so slowly; it is because individuals have a capacity for better things that it moves at all.

George (Robert) Gissing (1857-1903)

The Private Papers of Henry Ryecroft (1903), "Winter"

Man/Mankind/Humankind

It would be interesting to know what it is men are most afraid of. Taking a new step, uttering a new word.

Fyodor Dostoyevski (1821-1881)

Crime and Punishment (1866)

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Look now how mortals are blaming the gods, for they say that evils come from us, but in fact they themselves have woes beyond their share because of their own follies.

Homer

The Odyssey, I, 32

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Man alone at the very moment of his birth, cast naked upon the naked earth, does she abandon to cries and lamentations

Pliny the Elder

Natural History, VII, 2

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Man is a rope connecting animal and superman—a rope over a precipe….What is great in man is that he is a bridge and not a goal.

Friedrich Nietzsche

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Man is but a reed, the most weak in nature, but he is a thinking reed.

Blaise Pascal

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Man is Creation's masterpiece; but who says so?

Elbert Hubbard

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Man is God's highest present development. He is the latest thing in God.

Samuel Butler

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Man is nature's sole mistake.

W. S. Gilbert

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Man is one name belonging to every nation upon earth. In them all is one soul though many tongues. Every country has its own language, yet the subjects of which the untutored soul speaks are the same everywhere.

Quintus Septimius Tertullian

Testimony of the Soul

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Man is the only animal to whom the torture and death of his fellow creatures is amusing in itself.

James A. Froude

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Man was formed for society and is neither capable of living alone, nor has the courage to do it.

Sir William Blackstone

Commentaries on the Laws of England, 1765.

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Man's best possession is a sympathetic wife.

Euripides (485-406 B.C.)

Fragments, 164

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Man, biologically considered…is the most formidable of all the beasts of prey, and, indeed, the only one that preys systematically on its own species.

William James

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Man, considered as a creature, must necessarily be subject to the laws of his Creator…. This law of nature, being coeval with mankind, and dictated by God himself, is of course superior in obligation to any other. It is binding over all the globe, in all countries, and at all times: no human laws are of any validity, if contrary to this: and such of them as are valid derive all their force, and all their authority, mediately or immediately, from this original.

Sir William Blackstone

Commentaries on the Laws of England, 1765.

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Mankind is at its best when it is most free. This will be clear if we grasp the principle of liberty. We must recall that the basic principle is freedom of choice, which saying many have on their lips but few in their mind.

Dante (or Durante) Alighieri (1265-1321)

Monarchy (1309), Book I

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Mankind will reject and kill their prophets, but men love their martyrs and honour those whom they have done to death.

Fyodor Dostoyevski (1821-1881)

The Brothers Karamazov (1880). Bk. VI, Ch. 3

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Mankind, fleet of life, like tree leaves, weak creatures of clay, unsubstantial as shadows, wingless, ephemeral, wretched, mortal and dreamlike.

Aristophanes

Birds, 685

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Man—a being in search of meaning.

Plato

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Man—a creature made at the end of the week's work when God was tired.

Mark Twain

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Man—a reasoning rather than a reasonable animal.

Alexander Hamilton

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Men can do all things if they will.

Leon Battista Alberti

Man/Mankind/Humankind

No man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main.

John Donne

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Nothing feebler than a man does the earth raise up, of all the things which breathe and move on the earth, for he believes that he will never suffer evil in the future, as long as the gods give him success and he flourishes in his strength; but when the blessed gods bring sorrows too to pass, even these he bears, against his will, with steadfast spirit, for the thoughts of earthly men are like the day which the father of gods and men brings upon them.

Homer

The Odyssey, XVIII, 130

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Nothing is more unreliable than the people [or populace, or masses], nothing more obscure than human intentions, nothing more deceptive than the whole system of elections.

Marcus Tullius Cicero (106-43 B.C.)

Pro Murena

Man/Mankind/Humankind

O miserable minds of men! O blind hearts! In what darkness of life, in what great dangers ye spend this little span of years!

Lucretius [Titus Lucretius Carus]

De Rerum Natura, II, 14

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Of all the animals, man is the only that is cruel. He is the only one that inflicts pain for the pleasure of doing it. It is a trait that is not known to the higher animals.

Samuel Langhorne Clemens ("Mark Twain") (1835-1910)

The Damned Human Race

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Of all the tyrannies on human kind

The worst is that which persecutes the mind.

John Dryden (1631-1700)

"The Hind and the Panther" (1687), Pt. I, 1.239

Man/Mankind/Humankind

One machine can do the work of fifty ordinary men. No machine can do the work of one extraordinary man.

Elbert Hubbard

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Our character (mores) is not so much the product of race and heredity, as of circumstances by which nature forms habits, by which we are nourished and live.

Marcus Tullius Cicero (106-43 B.C.)

De Lege Agraria, ii, 95

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Our sires' age was worse than our grandsires'. We their sons are more worthless than they: so in our turn we shall give the world a progeny yet more corrupt.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Odes, III, VI, 46

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Surely there is nothing more wretched than a man, of all things which breathe and move upon the earth.

Homer

The Iliad, XVII, 446

Man/Mankind/Humankind

The fornicator is not worthy of compassion, but deserves to be derided and made a mockery of, since he is more irrational than a woman, and a harlot besides.

St. Joannes Chrysostomus (St. John Chrysostom) (345?-407)

Homilies (c. 388)

Man/Mankind/Humankind

The friend of man, the friend of truth,

The friend of age, the guide of youth;

If there's another world, he lives in

bliss;

If there is none, he made the best of this.

Robert Burns

Man/Mankind/Humankind

The greatest revolution of our generation is the discovery that human beings, by changing the inner attitudes of their minds can change the outer aspects of their lives.

William James

Man/Mankind/Humankind

The idols of the Tribe have their foundation in human nature itself, and in the tribe or race of men. For it is a false assertion that the sense of man is the measure of things. On the contrary, all perceptions, as well of the sense as of the mind, are according to the measures of the individual and not according to the measure of the universe.

Francis Bacon

Novum Organum, Aphorism., xli.

Man/Mankind/Humankind

The lame man who keeps the right road outstrips the runner who takes a wrong one. Nay, it is obvious that the more active and swift the latter is the further he will go astray.

Francis Bacon

Man/Mankind/Humankind

The man's desire is for the woman; but the woman's desire is rarely other than for the desire of the man.

Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1772-1834)

Table Talk (23 July 1827)

Man/Mankind/Humankind

The more I see of man, the more I like dogs.

Madame de Stael

Man/Mankind/Humankind

The people are a many-headed beast.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Epistles, I, i, 76

Man/Mankind/Humankind

The people is a beast of muddy brain

That knows not its own strength.

Tommasso Campanella

The People.

Man/Mankind/Humankind

The seaman's story is of tempest, the plowman's of his team of bulls; the soldier tells his wounds, the shepherd his tale of sheep.

Sextus Aurelius Propertius

Elegies, II, i, 43

Man/Mankind/Humankind

The world holds two classes of men—intelligent men without religion, and religious men without intelligence.

Abu'l-Ala-Al-Ma'arri

Man/Mankind/Humankind

The world is made up, for the most part, of fools or knaves, both irreconcilable foes to truth: the first being slaves to a blind credulity, which we may properly be called bigotry, the last too jealous of that power they have usurped over the folly and ignorance of the others, which the establishment of the empire of reason would destroy.

George Villiers, 2nd Duke of Buckingham

Man/Mankind/Humankind

There are four classes of idols which beset men's minds. To these for distinction's sake I have assigned names,—calling the first class Idols of the Tribe; the second, Idols of the Cave; the third, Idols of the Market-place; the fourth, Idols of the Theater.

Francis Bacon

Novum Organum, Aphorism., xxxix.

Man/Mankind/Humankind

There are some men formed with feelings so blunt, that they can hardly be said to be awake during the whole course of their lives.

Edmund Burke

S. A. Allibone, Prose Quotations, 1876.

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Things are in the saddle

And ride mankind.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

"Ode," inscribed to Channing (1867)

Man/Mankind/Humankind

This Being of mine, whatever it really is, consists of a little flesh, a little breath, and the part which governs.

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

Meditations, II, 2

Man/Mankind/Humankind

This goodly frame, the earth, seems to me a sterile promontory; this most excellent canopy, the air, look you, this brave o'erhanging firmament, this majestical roof fretted with golden fire, why it appears no other thing to me but a goul and pestilent congregation of vapors. What a piece of work is a man! How noble in reason! how infinite in faculty! in form, in moving, how express and admirable! in action how like an angel! in apprehension how like a god!

William Shakespeare

Hamlet, II, ii, 317

Man/Mankind/Humankind

To give up pretensions is as blessed a relief as to get them ratified.

William James

Man/Mankind/Humankind

To tax and to please, no more than to love and to be wise, is not given to men.

Edmund Burke

Speech on American Taxation, 1774.

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Water indeed will flow indifferently to the east or west, but will it flow indifferently up or down? The tendency of man's nature to good is like the tendency of water to flow downwards. There are none but have this tendency to good, just as all water flows downwards.

Mencius

Book VI, 1:2.2

Man/Mankind/Humankind

We are but dust and shadow.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Odes, IV, vii, 16

Man/Mankind/Humankind

We must laugh at man to avoid crying for him.

Napoleon Bonaparte

Man/Mankind/Humankind

We must, however, acknowledge, as it seems to me, that man with all his noble qualities…still bears in his bodily frame the indelible stamp of his lowly origin.

Charles Darwin

Man/Mankind/Humankind

We were born to unite with our fellowmen, and to join in community with the human race.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

De finibus, IV, c. 50 B.C.

Man/Mankind/Humankind

What is the chief end of man?—to get rich. In what way?—dishonestly if he can; honestly if he must.

Samuel Langhorne Clemens ("Mark Twain") (1835-1910)

"The Revised Catechism"

Man/Mankind/Humankind

Whenever two people meet there are really six people present. There is each man as he sees himself, each man as the other person sees him, and each man as he really is.

William James

Management

Good management consists of showing average people how to the work of superior people.

John D. Rockefeller

Management

The best executive is the one who has sense enough to pick good men to do what he wants done, and self-restraint enough to keep from meddling with them while they do it.

Theodore Roosevelt

Manhood

A man's usefulness depends upon his living up to his ideals insofar as he can.

Theodore Roosevelt

Manhood

All daring and courage, all iron endurance of misfortune—make for a finer, nobler type of manhood.

Theodore Roosevelt

Manhood

Only those are fit to live who do not fear to die; and none are fit to die who have shrunk from the joy of life and the duty of life.

Theodore Roosevelt

Manhood

The best man is he who most tries to perfect himself, and the happiest man is he who most feels that he is perfecting himself.

Socrates

Manhood

Whoso would be a man must be a non-conformist.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Man/Mankind/Humankind

If there be any among those common objects of hatred I do condemn and laugh at, it is that great enemy of reason, virtue, and religion—the multitude; that numerous piece of monstrosity, which, taken asunder, see men and the reasonable creatures of God, but, confused together, make but one great beast, and a monstrosity more prodigious than Hydra.

Thomas Browne

Religio Medici, 1642, pt. ii, #1.

Manners

Every generation is convinced there has been a deplorable breakdown of manners.

Byron Dobell

Manners

Fine manners need the support of fine manners in others.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Manners

Manners are happy ways of doing things.

Author Unknown

Manners

Manners are like zero in arithmetic. They may not be much in themselves, but they are capable of adding a great deal of value to everything else.

Freya Stark

Manners

Manners maketh man.

William of Wykeham

Manners

Manners must adorn knowledge, and smooth its way through the world. Like a great rough diamond, it may do very well in a closet by way of curiosity, and also for its intrinsic value.

Philip Stanhope

Marriage/Married Life

Marriages are made in heaven and consummated on earth.

John Lyly

Mother Bombie, Act IV, sc. I

Marriage/Married Life

A gentleman who had been very unhappy in marriage, married immediately after his wife died: Johnson said, it was the triumph of hope over experience.

Samuel Johnson.—James Boswell, Boswell, 5 Life of Johnson, ed. George B. Hill, rev. and enl. ed., ed. L. F. Powell, entry for 1770, vol. 2, p. 128 (1934).

Marriage/Married Life

A good marriage would be between a blind wife and a deaf husband.

Michel de Montaigne

Marriage/Married Life

A marriage without conflict is almost as inconceivable as a nation without crises.

Andre Maurois

Marriage/Married Life

A single man has not nearly the value he would have in a state of union. He is an incomplete animal. He resembles the odd half of a pair of scissors.

Benjamin Franklin

Marriage/Married Life

A single man resembles the odd half of a pair of scissors.

Benjamin Franklin

Marriage/Married Life

A successful marriage requires falling into love many times, always with the same person.

Mignon McLaughlin

Marriage/Married Life

A young man married is a man that's marr'd.

William Shakespeare

All's Well That Ends Well, II, iii, 315

Marriage/Married Life

Accordingly we have three forms of marriage, which in the main correspond to the three principal stages of human development. For the period of savagery, the group marriage; for barbarism, the pairing marriage; for civilization, monogamy supplemented by adultery and prostitution. Between the pairing marriage and monogamy there intervened, at the highest stage of barbarism, the right of men to female slaves, and polygamy.

Friedrich Engels (1820-1895)

The Origin of the Family (1894)

Marriage/Married Life

But the main purpose of marriage will compel us to revise the institution so that we shall not waste any useful woman, especially if she is a woman of notable ability. It is a significant fact that there are no 'unwanted women' in polygamous countries. These derelicts are to be found only in countries which are monogamous; and they represent, less today, perhaps, than formerly, sheer waste of mother-power. Even as things are, the 'unwanted woman' is still doomed to lead a solitary life, unless she has an illicit lover, and can contemplate old age and retirement only with dismay.

St. John Ervine, Bernard Shaw His Life, Work and Friends, p. 424 (1956). In this comment on Shaw's play, "Getting Married,' Ervine summarizes one of the arguments in Shaw's lengthy Preface to the play.

Marriage/Married Life

Deceive not thyself by overexpecting happiness in the married state. Remember the nightingales which sing only some months in the spring, but commonly are silent when they have hatched their eggs.

Thomas Fuller

Marriage/Married Life

Every one of you hath his particular plague, and my wife is mine; and he is very happy who hath this only.

The Seven Sages Pittacus. From Plutarch, Morals, On The Tranquility Of The Mind

Marriage/Married Life

For what is wedlock forced, but a hell,

An age of discord and continual strife?

Whereas the contrary bringeth bliss,

And is a pattern of celestial peace.

William Shakespeare

King Henry VI, I, V, v, 62

Marriage/Married Life

Fornication is a lapse from one marriage into another.

Clement of Alexandria (150?-220?), Church father

Stromateis

Marriage/Married Life

Hasty marriage seldom proveth well.

William Shakespeare

King Henry VI, III, IV, i, 18

Marriage/Married Life

He that hath wife and children hath given hostages to fortune, for they are impediments to great enterprises, either of virtue or mischief. Certainly the best works and of greatest merit for the public have proceeded from the unmarried or childless men, which both in affection and means have married and endowed the public…. He was reputed one of the wise men that made answer to the question, when a man should marry—"A young man not yet, an elder man not at all."

Francis Bacon, "Of Marriage and Single Life," The Essays or Counsels Civil and Moral of Francis Bacon, ed. Fred A. Howe, chapter 8, pp. 20, 22 (1908). Based on the 1625 edition but with modernized spelling.

Marriage/Married Life

Here's a little advice for young men contemplating marriage. Never praise a woman too highly. If you stop, she'll think you don't love her anymore. If you keep it up, she'll soon think she's too good for you.

Star Valley Independent

Marriage/Married Life

I don't see why we can't get along just as well with a polygamist who doesn't polyg as we do with a lot of monogamists who don't monog!

Attributed to Senator Boies Penrose.—Francis T. Plimpton, speech, quoted in Reader's Digest, June 1958, p. 142. These words were supposedly said in the Senate where a protest had arisen against seating Reed Smoot, the first Mormon senator, in 1903. Not verified in newspapers or accounts of that time.

Also attributed, with variation in the wording, to President Theodore Roosevelt, while he was campaigning in 1902.—Bennett Cerf, The Laugh's on Me, p. 350 (1959).

Marriage/Married Life

I have always thought that every woman should marry, and no man.

Benjamin Disraeli, Lothair, chapter 30, p. 109 (1870).

Marriage/Married Life

I wed thee forever, not for now. Not for the slam of earth's brief years. I wed thee for the life beyond the tears, beyond the heart pain and the clouded brow. Love knows no grave, and it will guide us,…when life's candles flutter and burn low.

Anderson M. Baten

Marriage/Married Life

Is not marriage an open question, when it is alleged, from the beginning of the world, that such as are in the institution wish to get out, and such as are out wish to get in?

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Marriage/Married Life

It takes a loose rein to keep a marriage tight.

John Stevenson

Marriage/Married Life

It [marriage] happens as with cages: the birds without despair to get in, and those within despair of getting out.

Michel Eyquem de Montaigne

Essays, III, 5

Marriage/Married Life

Keep thy eyes wide open before marriage, and half-shut afterwards.

Benjamin Franklin

Marriage/Married Life

Let all thy joys be as the month of May,

And all thy days be as a marriage day:

Let sorrow, sickness and a troubled mind

Be stranger to thee.

Francis Quarles

To a Bride

Marriage/Married Life

Lord of yourself, uncumber'd with a wife.

John Dryden

Epistle To John Driden of Chesterton, 18

Marriage/Married Life

Marriage has many pains, but celibacy has no pleasures.

Samuel Johnson

Marriage/Married Life

Marriage has, as you say, no natural relation to love. Marriage belongs to society; it is a social contract.

Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1772-1834)

Table Talk (23 July 1827)

Marriage/Married Life

Marriage is a desperate thing.

John Selden

Marriage/Married Life

Marriage is a feast where the grace is sometimes better than the dinner.

Charles Caleb Colton

Marriage/Married Life

Marriage is a noose.

Cervantes

Marriage/Married Life

Marriage is a wonderful institution. It teaches a man regularity, frugality, temperance and other virtues he wouldn't need if he stayed single.

Star Valley Independent

Marriage/Married Life

Marriage is like putting your foot in the tub. Once you get used to it, it ain't so hot.

Star Valley Independent

Marriage/Married Life

Marriage is that relation between man and woman in which the independence is equal, the dependence mutual, and the obligation reciprocal.

Louis Anspacher

Marriage/Married Life

Marriage is the most inviolable and irrevocable of all contracts that were ever formed. Every human compact may be lawfully dissolved but this.

James Gibbons

The Faith of our Fathers (1876), vii

Marriage/Married Life

Marriage is the mother of the world. It preserves kingdoms, and fills cities and churches, and heaven itself.

Jeremy Taylor

Marriage/Married Life

Marriage means different things to different people. For instance there was a suitor who told his girl's father, ' I've come to ask for your daughter's hand, the two front rooms and use of the kitchen.

Star Valley Independent

Marriage/Married Life

Marriage must be a relation either of sympathy or of conquest.

George Eliot (née Marian Evans Cross) (1819-1880)

Romola (1863), Ch. 48

Marriage/Married Life

Marriage, if one will face the truth, is an evil, but a necessary evil.

Menander

Unidentified fragment 651

Marriage/Married Life

Marriage, if one will the truth, is an evil, but a necessary one.

Menander

Marriage/Married Life

Marriage—a community consisting of a master, a mistress, and two slaves—making in all two.

Ambrose Bierce

Marriage/Married Life

May the gods grant you all things which your heart desires, and may they give you a husband and a home and gracious concord, for there is nothing greater and better than this—when a husband and wife keep a household in oneness of mind, a great woe to their enemies and joy to their friends, and win high renown.

Homer

The Odyssey, VI, 180

Marriage/Married Life

Mrs. Fitzpatrick. I made no doubt that his [Mr. Fitzpatrick's] designs were strictly honourable, as the phrase is; that is, to rob a lady of her fortune by way of marriage.

Fielding, Tom Jones, XI, 4

Marriage/Married Life

Never say that a marriage has more of joy than pain.

Euripides

Marriage/Married Life

Niagara Falls is only the second biggest disappointment of the standard honeymoon.

Oscar Wilde

Marriage/Married Life

Of course, some guys carry marriage too far. Like the bigamist who found that two rites make a wrong.

Star Valley Independent

Marriage/Married Life

One should always be in love. That is the reason one should never marry.

Oscar Wilde

Marriage/Married Life

One was never married, and that's his hell; another is, and that's his plague.

Robert Burton

Marriage/Married Life

One Year of Joy, another of Comfort, the rest of Contentment, make the married Life happy.

Thomas Fuller (1654-1734)

Gnomologia (1732), No. 3806

Marriage/Married Life

Saw a wedding in the church; and strange to see what delight we married people have to see these poor fools decoyed into our condition.

Samuel Pepys

Marriage/Married Life

Such duty as the subject owes the prince,

Even such a woman oweth to her husband.

William Shakespeare

The Taming of the Shrew, V, ii, 156

Marriage/Married Life

That very name of wife and marriage

Is poison to the dearest sweets of love.

John Dryden (1631-1700)

"Amphitryon" (1690)

Marriage/Married Life

The critical period in matrimony is breakfast-time.

A. P. Herbert, Uncommon Law, p. 98 (1935).

Marriage/Married Life

The interdiction of marriage to priests was an act of impious tyranny, not only contrary to the word of God, but at war with every principle of justice.

John Calvin

Institutes of the Christian Religion, IV, 1536.

Marriage/Married Life

The particular charm of marriage is the dialogue, the permanent conversation of between two people who talk over everything and everyone.

Cyril Connolly

Marriage/Married Life

The union of hands and hearts.

Bishop Jeremy Taylor

Sermons, The Marriage Ring, pt. 1

Marriage/Married Life

There is no more lovely, friendly and charming relationship, communion or company than a good marriage.

Martin Luther

Marriage/Married Life

Therefore don't you be gentle to your wife either. Don't tell her everything you know, but tell her one thing and keep another thing hidden.

Homer

The Odyssey, XI, 441

Marriage/Married Life

Two persons who have chosen each other out of all the species,…to be each other's mutual comfort and entertainment, have in that action bound themselves to be good-humored, affable, discreet, forgiving, patient and joyful, with respect for each other's frailties and imperfections.

Richard Steele

Marriage/Married Life

Virginity stands as far above marriage as the heavens stand above the earth.

St. Joannes Chrysostomus (St. John Chrysostom) (345?-407)

De Virginitas (c. 390), ix

Marriage/Married Life

When a husband and wife have got each other, the devil only knows which has got the other.

Honore de Balzac

Marriage/Married Life

Where there's marriage without love, there will be love without marriage.

Benjamin Franklin

Marriage/Married Life

Deceive not thyself by overexpecting happiness in the married estate. Remember the nightingales which sing only some months in the spring, but commonly are silent when they have hatched their eggs.

Thomas Fuller

The Holy State of the Profane State. Of Marriage

Marriage/Married Life

Kiss me, Kate, we will be married o' Sunday.

William Shakespeare

The Taming of the Shrew, II, i, 318

Marriage/Married Life

Merchant's Wife. And well you know that women naturally

Desire six things, and even so do I.

For women all would have their husbands be

Hardy, and wise, and rich, and therewith free,

Obedient to the wife, and fresh in bed.

Geoffrey Chaucer, Canterbury Tales: Shipman's Tale

Marriage/Married Life

One good husband is worth two good wives; for the scarcer things are the more they are valued.

Benjamin Franklin

Marriage/Married Life

You are my true and honorable wife,

As dear to me as are the fuddy drops

That visit my sad heart.

William Shakespeare

Julius Caesar, II, i, 288

Martyrdom/Martyrs

…for Oh, to some

Not to be Martyres, is a martyrdome.

John Donne (1573-1631)

"The Martyrs"

Martyrdom/Martyrs

A thing is not necessarily true because a man dies for it.

Oscar Wilde

Martyrdom/Martyrs

And one may say boldly that no man has a right perception of any truth who has not been reacted on by it so as to be ready to be its martyr.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Conduct of Life (1860), "Fate"

Martyrdom/Martyrs

He that dies a martyr proves that he was not a knave, but by no means that he was not a fool.

Charles Caleb Colton (1780-1832)

The Lacon (1829)

Martyrdom/Martyrs

Let others wear the martyr's crown; I am not worthy of this honor.

Desiderius Erasmus

Martyrdom/Martyrs

Socrates and Jesus Christ were put to death publicly as blasphemers, and so have been and may be many who dare to oppose the most notorious abuses of the name of God and the mind of man. But persecution is not refutation, nor even triumph: the "wretched infidel", as he is called, is probably happier in his prison than the proudest of his assailants.

Lord Byron

Quoted by V. Gollancz, From Darkness to Light.

Martyrdom/Martyrs

The tyrant dies and his rule ends, the martyr dies and his rule begins.

Soren Kierkegaard

Martyrdom/Martyrs

They never fail who die

In a great cause: the block may soak

their gore;

Their heads may sodden in the sun; their

limbs

Be strung to city gates and castle walls—

But still their spirit walks abroad.

Lord Byron

Marino Faliero.

Maturity

Maturity is that time when the mirrors in our mind turn to windows and instead of seeing the reflection of ourselves we see others.

Author Unknown

Maturity

You're never too old to grow up.

Shirley Conran

McCarthyism

Until this moment, Senator, I think I never really gaged [sic] your cruelty or your recklessness…. Let us not assassinate this lad further, Senator. You have done enough. Have you no sense of decency, sir, at long last? Have you left no sense of decency?

Joseph N. Welch, remark to Senator Joseph McCarthy, June 9, 1954, during the Army-McCarthy hearings.—Special Senate Investigation on Charges and Countercharges Involving: Secretary of the Army Robert T Stevens [et al.], hearing before the Special Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Government Operations, United States Senate, 83d Congress, 2d session, part 59, p. 2429.Welch, counsel for the Army, was responding to Senator McCarthy's charge that a member of Welch's law firm had once belonged to a Communist front group. Many believed that Senator McCarthy's downfall began with this exchange.

McCarthyism

When public men indulge themselves in abuse, when they deny others a fair trial, when they resort to innuendo and insinuation, to libel, scandal, and suspicion, then our democratic society is outraged, and democracy is baffled. It has no apparatus to deal with the boor, the liar, the lout, and the antidemocrat in general.

Senator J. William Fulbright, remarks in the Senate, February 2, 1954, Congressional Record, vol. 100, p. 1105.

Measure

All men are two meters tall.. give or take a meter.

Author Unknown

Measure

If you can measure what you speak of and express it by a number, you know something about your subject; but if you cannot measure it, your knowledge is meager and unsatisfactory.

Lord Kelvin

Measure

The ability to measure is one of man's greatest capabilities.

F. D. Rossini

Measure

The trouble with measurement is its seeming simplicity.

Author Unknown

Medicine

The art of medicine consists of amusing the patient while nature cures the disease.

Voltaire

Medicine

Wherever the art of medicine is loved, there also is love of humanity.

Hippocrates

Medicine

Cure the disease and kill the patient.

Francis Bacon

Essays, Of Friendship

Medicine

That your food may be your medicine, and that your medicine may be your food.

Hippocrates

Mediocrity

Never were abilities so much below mediocrity so well rewarded; no, not when Caligula's horse was made Consul.

Representative John Randolph of Roanoke, referring to Richard Rush, upon Rush's appointment as secretary of the treasury by President John Quincy Adams. Published as an appendix to a new edition of his speech in the House, February 1, 1828, on retrenchment and reform.—William Cabell Bruce, John Randolph of Roanoke, 1773-1833, vol. 2, chapter 7, p. 200 (1922, reprinted 1970).Caligula, Roman emperor from A.D. 37-41, was a "cruel, prodigal, and insane tyrant," according to The Oxford Companion to Classical Literature, ed. Sir Paul Harvey, p. 373 (1937). There is some disagreement whether he actually made his horse, Incitatus, consul to humiliate the Senate, or merely proposed it.

Mediocrity

The general tendency of things throughout the world is to render mediocrity the ascendant power among mankind.

John Stuart Mill

Mediocrity

The world is a republic of mediocrities, and always was.

Thomas Carlyle

Letter to Emerson, May 13, 1853.

Memory

But when thou shalt be in the sweet world, I pray thee bring me to men's memory.

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy, Canto VI, 88

Memory

I would have you imagine, then, that there exists in the mind of man a block of wax, which is of different sizes in different men; harder, moister, and having more or less of purity in one than another, and in some of an intermediate quality….Let us say that this tablet is a gift of Memory, the mother of the Muses; and that when we wish to remember anything which we have seen, or heard, or thought in our own minds, we hold the wax to the perceptions and thoughts, and in that material receive the impression of them as from the seal of a ring; and what we remember and know what is imprinted as long as the image lasts; but when the image is effaced, or cannot be taken, than we forget and do not know.

Plato

Dialogues, Theaetetus, 191

Memory

I'll note you in my book of memory.

William Shakespeare

King Henry VI, I, II, iv, 101

Memory

It is therefore necessary that memorable things should be committed to writing, (the witness of times, the light and the life of truth,) and not wholly betaken [i.e., committed] to slippery memory which seldom yields a certain reckoning.

Sir Edward Coke, Les Reports de Edward Coke, vol. 1, p. 3 (1660). Spelling modernized.

Memory

Memory, the warder of the brain.

William Shakespeare

Macbeth, I, vii, 65

Memory

No memory is ever alone. It's at the end of a trail of memories, a dozen trails that each have their own associations.

Louis L'Amour

Memory

The right honourable gentleman is indebted to his memory for his jests, and to his imagination for his facts.

Richard Brinsley Sheridan,

reply in the House of Commons.

—Thomas Moore, Memoirs of the Life of the

Right Honourable Richard Brinsley Sheridan,

3d ed., vol. 2, chapter 21, p. 471 (1825).

"A curious instance of the care with which he

treasured up the felicities of his wit appears in

the use he made of one of those epigrammatic

passages…which, in its first form, ran thus:—

'He certainly has a great deal of fancy, and a very

good memory; but, with a perverse ingenuity,

he employs these qualities as no other person

does—for he employs his fancy in his narratives,

and keeps his recollection for his wit—when

he makes jokes, you applaud the accuracy of his

memory, and 'tis only when he states his facts

that you admire the flights of his imagination.'

"After many efforts to express this thought more

concisely, and to reduce the language of it to

that condensed and elastic state, in which alone it

gives force to the projectiles of wit, he kept the

passage by him patiently some years,—till he at length

found an opportunity of turning it to account,

in a reply, I believe, to Mr. Dundas, in the

House of Commons, when, with the most

extemporaneous air, he brought it forth, in

the compact and pointed form [above]" (p. 471).

Memory/Imagination

He is indebted to his memory for his jests and to his imagination for his facts.

Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Memory/Imagination

How is it that our memory is good enough to retain the least triviality that happens to us, and yet not good enough to recollect how often we have told it to the same person?

Duc de la Rochefoucauld

Memory/Imagination

I have a bad memory for facts.

Henri Beyle Stendhal

Memory/Imagination

It's a poor sort of memory that only works backwards.

Lewis Carroll

Memory/Imagination

Nothing fixes a thing so intensely in the memory as the wish to forget it.

Michel de Montaigne

Memory/Imagination

The advantage of a bad memory is that one enjoys several times the same good things for the first time.

Friedrich Nietzsche

Memory/Imagination

There must be at least 500 million rats in the United States; of course, I am speaking only from memory.

Edgar Wilson Nye

Mercy

If mercy were not mingled with His Power

This wretched world would not subsist an hour.

Sir W. Davenant

Mercy

The quality of mercy is not strain'd,

It droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven

Upon the place beneath: it is twice bless'd;

It blesseth him that gives and him that takes:

'Tis mightiest in the mightiest; it becomes

The throned monarch better than his crown;

His scepter shows the force of temporal power,

The attribute to awe and majesty,

Wherein doth sit the dread and fear of kings;

But mercy is above this scepter'd sway,

It is enthroned in the hearts of kings,

It is an attribute to God himself,

And earthly power doth then show likest God's

When mercy seasons justice. Therefore, Jew,

Though justice be thy plea, consider this,

That in the course of justice, none of us

Should see salvation: we do pray for mercy,

And that same prayer doth teach us all to render

The deeds of mercy.

William Shakespeare

The Merchant of Venice, IV, i, 184

Mercy

We hand folks over to God's mercy, and show none ourselves.

George Eliot

Mercy

Who will not mercy unto others whos,

How can he mercy ever hope to have?

Edmund Spenser

The Faerie Queene, VI, 1, 42

Middle Class

The best political community is formed by citizens of the middle class.

Aristotle

Middle Class

The middle class is always a firm champion of equality when it concerns a class above it; but it is its inveterate foe when it concerns elevating a class below it.

Orestes A. Brownson

Military Affairs

Enjoin this upon the Officers, and let them inculcate, and press home to the Soldiery, the Necessity of Order and Harmony among them, who are embark'd in one common Cause, and mutually contending for all that Freeman [sic] hold dear. I am persuaded, if the Officers will but exert themselves, these Animosities, this Disorder will in a great Measure subside, and nothing being more essential to the Service than that it should, I am hopeful nothing on their Parts will be wanting to effect it.

General George Washington, letter to Major General Philip Schuyler July 17, 1776.—The Writings of George Washington, ed. John C. Fitzpatrick, vol. 5, pp. 290-91 (1932).

Military Affairs

I could as easily bail out the Potomac River with a teaspoon as attend to all the details of the army.

Attributed to President Abraham Lincoln by General James B. Fry.—Allen Thorndike Rice, Reminiscences of Abraham Lincoln, chapter 22, p. 393 (1886).This supposedly had been part of Lincoln's response to a young volunteer soldier who had come to Lincoln's office asking his help with a grievance. The story has been repeated in numerous books on Lincoln: Alexander K. McClure, "Abe" Lincoln's Yarns and Stories, p. 162 (1904); Ida M. Tarbell, The Life of Abraham Lincoln, vol. 2, p. 153 (1917); and Caroline T. Harnsberger, The Lincoln Treasury, p. 14 (1950).

Military Affairs

In the councils of government, we must guard against the acquisition of unwarranted influence, whether sought or unsought, by the military-industrial complex. The potential for the disastrous rise of misplaced power exists and will persist. We must never let the weight of this combination endanger our liberties or democratic processes. We should take nothing for granted. Only an alert and knowledgeable citzenry can compel the proper meshing of the huge industrial and military machinery of defense with our peaceful methods and goals, so that security and liberty may prosper together.

President Dwight D. Eisenhower, farewell radio and television address to the American people, Washington, D.C., January 17, 1961.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Dwight D. Eisenhower 1960-61, p. 1038.

Military Affairs

Nay, number itself in armies importeth not much, where the people is of weak courage; for, as Virgil saith, "It never troubles the wolf how many the sheep be."

Francis Bacon, "Of the True Greatness of Kingdoms and Estates," The Essays or Counsels Civil & Moral of Francis Bacon, p. 129 (1905).

Bacon quoted the words of Thyrsis in Virgil's Eclogue VII.

Military Affairs

Nothing can be more hurtful to the service, than the neglect of discipline; for that discipline, more than numbers, gives one army the superiority over another.

General George Washington, general orders, July 6, 1777.—The Writings of George Washington, ed. John C. Fitzpatrick, vol. 8, p. 359 (1933).

Military Affairs

Really when I reflect upon the characters and attainments of some of the General Officers of this army, and consider that these are the persons on whom I am to rely to lead columns against the French Generals, and who are to carry my instructions into execution, I tremble; and, as Lord Chesterfield said of the Generals of his day, "I only hope that when the enemy reads the list of their names he trembles as I do."

Arthur Wellesley, Duke of Wellington, letter to Lieutenant-Colonel Henry Torrens, August 29, 1810.—Antony Brett-James, Wellington at War 1794-1815, p. 199 (1961). Lord Chesterfield's comment is unverified.

Military Affairs

Some day there is going to be a man sitting in my present chair who has not been raised in the military services and who will have little understanding of where slashes in their estimates can be made with little or no damage. If that should happen while we still have the state of tension that now exists in the world, I shudder to think of what could happen in this country—

President Dwight D. Eisenhower, letter to Everett E. ("Swede") Hazlett, August 20, 1956.—William Bragg Ewald, Jr., Eisenhower the President, p. 248 (1981). Date of the letter provided by the Eisenhower Library, Abilene, Kansas.

Military Affairs

There was only one catch and that was Catch-22, which specified that a concern for one's own safety in the face of dangers that were real and immediate was the process of a rational mind. Orr was crazy and could be grounded. All he had to do was ask; and as soon as he did, he would no longer be crazy and would have to fly more missions. Orr would be crazy to fly more missions and sane if he didn't, but if he was sane he had to fly them. If he flew them he was crazy and didn't have to; but if he didn't want to he was sane and had to. Yossarian was moved very deeply by the absolute simplicity of this clause of Catch-22 and let out a respectful whistle.

Joseph Heller, Catch-22, chapter 5, p. 46 (1961).A more succinct definition of Catch-22 comes from Jacob Brackman's review of the film, Catch-22: "If you're crazy, they have to take you out of combat, but the catch is you have to ask them, and if you're trying to get out of combat then you can't be crazy."—A "Catch-22" Casebook, ed. Frederick Kiley and Walter McDonald, p. 363 (1973). The review originally appeared in Esquire, September 1970.

Military Affairs

To know when to retreat; and to dare to do it.

Arthur Wellesley, Duke of Wellington, when asked the best test of a great general.—Sir William Fraser, Words on Wellington, p. 37 (1889).

Military Affairs

With willing hearts and skillful hands, the difficult we do at once; the impossible takes a bit longer.

Author unknown. Inscription on the memorial to the Seabees (U.S. Naval Construction Batallions), between Memorial Bridge and Arlington Cemetery."The difficult we do immediately. The impossible takes a little longer."—Motto of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers during World War II, according to The Home Book of American Quotations, ed. Bruce Bohle, p. 35 (1967), which says that other branches of the service also used this slogan. Newsweek, March 8, 1943, p. 34, attributes this "cocky slogan" to the Army Air Forces.

A higher comparative, "The impossible we do at once; the miraculous takes a little longer' was said to be the motto of the Army Service Forces.—The New York Times, November 4, 1945, pp. 2E, 6E. This echoes a remark attributed to Charles-Alexandre de Calonne, Louis XVI's minister of finance. Marie Antoinette asked him something in a tone that brooked no refusal, adding that perhaps it would be difficult. He replied, "If it is only difficult, it is done; if it is impossible, we shall see."—J. F. Michaud, Biographie Universelle, vol. 6, p. 427.

Military Service

A young man who does not have what it takes to perform military service is not likely to have what it takes to make a living. Today's military rejects include tomorrow's hard core unemployed.

President John F. Kennedy, statement on the need for training or rehabilitation of Selective Service rejectees, September 30, 1963.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: John F Kennedy, 1963, p. 753.

Military Service

Any recruiter will tell you that the incentive for enlistment is that it [being drafted] is inevitable if you don't.

Lieutenant General Lewis B. Hershey, director of the Selective Service System, address at The American University, Washington, D.C., December 11, 1966, as reported by The New York Times, December 12, 1966, p. 53.

Military Service

It may be laid down as a primary position, and the basis of our system, that every Citizen who enjoys the protection of a free Government, owes not only a proportion of his property, but even his personal services to the defence of it, and consequently that the Citizens of America (with a few legal and official exceptions) from 18 to 50 Years of Age should be borne on the Militia Rolls, provided with uniform Arms, and so far accustomed to the use of them, that the Total strength of the Country might be called forth at a Short Notice on any very interesting Emergency,

George Washington, "Sentiments on a Peace Establishment," enclosed in a letter to Alexander Hamilton, chairman of the Committee of Congress on the Peace Establishment, May 2, 1783.—The Writings of George Washington, ed. John C. Fitzpatrick, vol. 26, p. 389 (1938).

Military Service

No man who is not willing to bear arms and to fight for his rights can give a good reason why he should be entitled to the privilege of living in a free community.

Theodore Roosevelt, Thomas Hart Benton, chapter 2, p. 37 (1897, reprinted 1968).

Military Service

War will exist until that distant day when the conscientious objector enjoys the same reputation and prestige that the warrior does today.

John F. Kennedy.—Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr., A Thousand Days: John F. Kennedy in the White House, p. 76 (1979).

Military Service

We must train and classify the whole of our male citizens, and make military instruction a regular part of collegiate education.

Thomas Jefferson, letter to James Monroe, June 18, 1813.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Andrew A. Lipscomb, vol. 13, p. 261 (1903).

Military Service

Where is it written in the Constitution, in what article or section is it contained, that you may take children from their parents, and parents from their children, and compel them to fight the battles of any war in which the folly or the wickedness of government may engage it?

Representative Daniel Webster, remarks in the House, December 9, 1814.—The Writings and Speeches of Danicl Webster, vol. 14, p. 61 (1903).

Military Service

Women should be permitted to volunteer for non-combat service,…they should not be accepted, voluntarily or through the draft, as combat soldiers…. We know of no comparable ways of training women and girls, and we have no real way of knowing whether the kinds of training that teach men both courage and restraint would be adaptable to women or effective in a crisis. But the evidence of history and comparative studies of other species suggest that women as a fighting body might be far less amenable to the rules that prevent warfare from becoming a massacre and, with the use of modern weapons, that protect the survival of all humanity. This is what I meant by saying that women in combat might be too fierce.

Margaret Mead,

response to question asking her views on the draft, June 1968.

—Margaret Mend, Some Personal Views,

ed. Rhoda Metraux, pp. 35, 36 (1979).

Military/Militarism

"Comrades, you have lost a good captain to make a bad general."

Saturnius

Military/Militarism

A good general not only sees the way to victory; he also knows when victory is impossible.

Polybius

Histories

Military/Militarism

Militarism is the great preserver of our ideals of hardihood, and human life with no use for hardihood would be contemptible.

William James

Military/Militarism

Military men are the scourges of the world.

Guy de Maupassant

Military/Militarism

Semper fidelis.

Ever faithful.

Anonymous Latin

Motto of the U.S. Marine Corps

Military/Militarism

The body of a dead enemy always smells sweet.

Aulus Vitellius

Mind

"Why is thy mind so entangled," said the Master, "that thou slackenest thy pace? What is it to thee what they whisper there? Come after me and let the people talk. Stand like a firm tower that never shakes its top for blast of wind.

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy. Purgatorio, canto V, 10

Mind

12…. For it is better to die of hunger, so that you be free from pain and from fear, than to live in plenty and be troubled in mind.

Epictetus (c. 50-120 A.D.)

The Manual of Epictetus (The Encheiridion)

Mind

41. It is a sign of a dull mind to dwell upon the cares of the body, to prolong exercise, eating, drinking, and other bodily functions. These things are to be done by the way; all your attention must be given to the mind.

Epictetus (c. 50-120 A.D.)

The Manual of Epictetus (The Encheiridion)

Mind

Apt words have power to suage

The tumors of a troubled mind.

John Milton

Samson Agonistes, 184

Mind

To the noble mind

Rich gifts wax poor when givers prove unkind.

William Shakespeare

Hamlet, III, i, 100

Mind

A chief event of life is the day in which we have encountered a mind that startled us.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Essays: Second Series (1844)

Mind

A foolish consistency is the hobgoblin of little minds, adored by little statesmen and philosophers and divines.

Ralph Waldo Emerson, "Self-Reliance," Essays: First Series (vol. 2 of The Complete Works of Balph Waldo Emerson), p. 57 (1903).

Mind

A good mind possesses a kingdom.

Lucius Annaeus Seneca

Thyestes, 380

Mind

A mind aware of its own rectitude.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aenied, I, 604

Mind

A mind content both crown and kingdom is.

Robert Greene

Farewell to Folly, st. 2

Mind

A mind not to be chang'd by place or time.

The mind is its own place, and in itself

Can make a heav'n of hell, a hell of heav'n.

John Milton

Paradise Lost, I, 253

Mind

A thinker (and what is an artist if not a triple thinker?) should have neither religion nor fatherland nor even any social convictions.

Gustave Flaubert (1821-1880)

Letters, To Mlle. Louise Colet, 1853

Mind

A weak mind is like a microscope, which magnifies trifling things, but cannot receive great ones.

Lord Chesterfield

Mind

All paid employments absorb and degrade the mind.

Aristotle

Mind

And when he is out of sight, quickly also is he out of mind.

Thomas A. Kempis

Imitation of Christ, I, 23

Mind

As every divided kingdom falls, so every mind divided between many studies confounds and saps itself.

Leonardo da Vinci

Mind

By a tranquil mind I mean nothing else than a mind well ordered.

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

Meditations, IV, 3

Mind

By annihilating desires you annihilate the mind.

Claude Adrien Helvetius

Mind

Cultivated mind is the guardian genius of Democracy, and while guided and controlled by virtue, the noblest attribute of man. It is the only dictator that freemen acknowledge, and the only security which freemen desire.

Mirabeau Buonaparte Lamar, president of the Republic of Texas, first message to both houses of Congress of the Republic of Texas, Houston, Texas, December 21, 1838.—The Papers of Mivabeau Buonaparte Lamar, ed. Charles A. Gulick, Jr., vol. 2, p. 348 (1922)."When a public school was a novelty and the Republic's treasury and credit were at their lowest, only a daring mind and a champion of enlightened liberty could have conceived the idea for insuring the education of the future Texas generations."—Philip Graham, The Life and Poems of Mirabeau B. Lamai; p. 53 (1938).

Mind

Diogenes: The man I know not, for I am not acquainted with his mind.

Dio Chrysostom

Fourth Discourse, On Kingship, ch.17

Mind

I do not distinguish by the eye, but by the mind, which is the proper judge of the man.

Lucius Annaeus Seneca

Moral Essays. On the Happy Life, 2, 2

Mind

I had rather believe all the fables in the legends and the Talmud and the Alcoran, than that this universal frame is without a mind.

Francis Bacon

Essays, Of Atheism

Mind

If there is anything in the world that can really be called a man's property, it is surely that which is the result of his mental activity.

Attributed to Arthur Schopenhauer. Unverified.

Mind

If we work upon marble, it will perish; if we work on brass, time will efface it. If we rear temples, they will crumble to dust. But if we work on men's immortal minds, if we impress on them high principles, the just fear of God, and love for their fellow-men, we engrave on those tablets something which no time can efface, and which will brighten and brighten to all eternity.

Daniel Webster, secretary of state, speech to the City Council, Boston, Massachusetts, May 22, 1852.—The Writings and Speeches of Daniel Webster, vol. 13, pp. 518-19 (1903).Webster served in Congress as a representative from New Hampshire, 1813-1817, and from Massachusetts, 1823-1827, and as a senator from Massachusetts, 1827-1841 and 1845-1850.

Mind

In the theological state, the human mind, seeking the essential nature of beings, the first and final causes (the origin and purpose) of all effects, in short, absolute knowledge, supposes all phenomena to be produced by the immediate action of supernatural beings.

In the metaphysical state, which is only a modification of the first, the mind supposes, instead of supernatural beings, abstract forces, veritable entities (that is, personified abstractions) inherent in all beings, and capable of producing all phenomena….

In the final, the positive state, the mind has give over the vain search after absolute notions, the origin and destination of the universe, and the causes of phenomena, and applies itself to the study of their laws, that is, their invariable relations of succession and resemblance. Reasoning and observation, duly combined, are the means of this knowledge.

Auguste Comte (1798-1857)

Cours de philosophie positive (1840-42) [The Positive Philosophy] (Tr. Harriet Martineau, 1853)

Mind

Is it only the mouth and belly which are injured any hunger and thirst? Men's minds are also injured by them.

Mencius

Book VII, 1:27.1

Mind

It is not possible with mortal mind to search out the purposes of the gods.

Pindar

Fragment 61

Mind

It is sweet to let the mind unbend on occasion.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Odes, IV, xii, 27

Mind

Mediocre minds usually dismiss anything which reaches beyond their own understanding.

Francois, Duc de la Rochefoucauld

Reflections; or, Sentences and Moral Maxims, 375

Mind

My mind is incapable of conceiving such a thing as a soul. I may be in error, and man may have a soul; but I simply do not believe it.

Thomas Alva Edison (1847-1931)

Do We Live Again?

Mind

My mind to me a kingdom is;

Such present joys therein I find

That it excels all other bliss

That earth affords or grows by kind:

Though much I want which most would have,

Yet still my mind forbids to crave.

Sir Edward Dyer

Rawlinson Poetry MS 85, p. 17

Mind

Not one man in a thousand has the strength of mind or the goodness of heart to be an atheist.

Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1772-1834)

Letters, To Thomas Allsop, c. 1820

Mind

Nothing made the horse so fat as the king's eye.

Plutarch

Morals. Of the Training of Children

Mind

Small minds can never handle great themes.

St. Jerome

Letter, 60

Mind

The diseases of the mind are more destructive than those of the body.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

Mind

The greatest minds, as they are capable of the highest excellencies, are open likewise to the greatest aberrations.

René Descartes (1596-1650)

A Discourse on Method (1637), Part I

Mind

The mind is never satisfied with the objects immediately before it, but is always breaking away from the present moment, and losing itself in schemes of future felicity.

The natural flights of the human mind are not from pleasure to pleasure, but from hope to hope.

Samuel Johnson, The Bamblei; no. 2, March 24, 1750.—The Bambler; A Periodical Paper, Published in 1750, 1751, 1752, p. 3 (1825).

Mind

The mind ought sometimes to be amused, that it may the better return to thought, and to itself.

Phaedrus

Mind

The spirit within nourishes, and the mind, diffused through all the members, sways the mass and mingles with the whole frame.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aeneid, VI, 726

Mind

The universe displays no proof of an all-directing mind.

Auguste Comte (1798-1857)

Mind

The wedlock of minds will be greater than that of bodies.

Desiderius Erasmus (1465-1536)

Procus et Puella

Mind

Those who seek to satisfy the mind of man by hampering it with ceremonies and music and affecting charity and devotion have lost their original nature.

Chuang Tzu

Joined Toes

Mind

To be possessed of a vigorous mind is not enough; the prime requisite is rightly to apply it.

René Descartes (1596-1650)

A Discourse on Method (1637)

Mind

When a man knows he is to be hanged in a fortnight, it concentrates his mind wonderfully.

Samuel Johnson

Mind

Whoso would be a man, must be a nonconformist. He who would gather immortal palms must not be hindered by the name of goodness, but must explore if it be goodness. Nothing is at last sacred but the integrity of your own mind…. A man is to carry himself in the presence of all opposition as if every thing were titular and ephemeral but he. I am ashamed to think how easily we capitulate to badges and names, to large societies and dead institutions.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Essays: First Series (1841)

Mind

Young men's minds are always changeable, but when an old man is concerned in a matter, he looks both before and after.

Homer

The Iliad, III, 108

Mind

Your eyes are so sharp that you cannot only look through a millstone, but clean through the mind.

John Lyly

Euphues and His England, p. 289

Mind

Little minds are tamed and subdued by misfortune; but great minds rise above it.

Washington Irving

Mind

Man's greatness lies in his power of thought.

Mortimer Adler

Mind

One dull pencil is worth two sharp minds.

Author Unknown

Miscellaneous

Trivial things do matter….More people are killed each year by the bite of mosquitoes than are stepped upon by charging elephants.

Author Unknown

Misfortune

Friends, we have not till now been unacquainted with misfortunes.

Homer

The Odyssey, XII, 208

Misfortune

Misfortune shows those who are not really friends.

Aristotle

Eudemian Ethics, VII, 2

Misfortune

The loss which is unknown is no loss at all.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 38

Misfortune

The very remembrance of my former misfortune proves a new one to me.

Miguel de Cervantes

Don Quixote, pt. I, III, 10, 174

Misfortune

With man, most of his misfortunes are occasioned by man.

Pliny the Elder

Natural History, VII, 5

Missionary

Are we interested in sight seeing or soul saving?

Author Unknown

Mistakes

I think everybody should admit their mistakes. I would if I had any.

Author Unknown

Mistakes

Learn from the mistakes of others—You can't live long enough to make them all yourself.

Author Unknown

Mistakes

Mistake, error, is the discipline through which we advance.

William Ellery Channing

Mistakes

Mistakes are a natural part of growing up. They're to be expected and made light of. But children bloom like spring flowers under praise. They want so much to be noticed and appreciated, to excel and have that excellence noticed.

Earl Nightingale

Mistakes

None but a fool is always right.

August Hare

Mistakes

To select the wrong person for a job is a common mistake; not to remove him/her is a fatal weakness.

Author Unknown

Mistakes

When a man is wrong, and won't admit it usually gets angry.

Author Unknown

Mobs

Every numerous assembly is mob, let the individuals who compose it be what they will….Understanding they have collectively none; but they have ears and eyes, which must be flattered and seduced.

Philip Dormer Stanhope,

Fourth Earl of Chesterfield

The Letters of Lord Chesterfield, 1892, 418.

Mobs

The Mob has many heads, but no Brains.

Thomas Fuller

Gnomologia

Moderation

A thing moderately good is not so good as it ought to be. Moderation in temper is always a virtue; but moderation in principle is always a vice.

Thomas Paine

Moderation

I know many have been taught to think that moderation in a case like this, is a sort of treason.

Edmund Burke

Letter to the Sheriffs of Bristol, April 3, 1777.

Moderation

Moderation in all things.

Terence [Publius Terentius Afer]

Andria (The Lady of Andros), 61

Moderation

There are found some minds given to an extreme admiration of antiquity, others to an extreme love and appetite for novelty; but few so duly tempered that they can hold the mean, neither carping at what has been well laid down by the ancients, nor despising what is well introduced by the moderns.

Francis Bacon

Novum Organum, Aphorism., lvi.

Moderation

Those words, "temperate and moderate," are words either of political cowardice, or of cunning, or seduction.—A thing, moderately good is not so good as it ought to be. Moderation in temper, is always a virtue; but moderation in principle, is a species of vice.

Thomas Paine, letter to the addressers on the late proclamation against seditious writings.—The Writings of Thomas Paine, ed. Moncure D. Conway, vol. 3, pp. 94-95 (1895).

Modesty

A gaudy dress and gentle air may slightly touch the heart, but it's innocence and modesty that polishes the dart.

Robert Burns

Modesty

At least I have the modesty to admit that lack of modesty is one of my failings.

Hector Berlioz

Modesty

Every young sculptor seems to think that he must give the world some specimen of indecorous womanhood, and call it Eve, Venus, a Nymph, or any name that may apologize for a lack of decent clothing.

Nathaniel Hawthorne

Modesty

He who speaks without modesty will find it difficult to make his words good.

Confucius

Modesty

I have offended God and mankind because my work didn't reach the quality it should have.

Leonardo da Vinci

Modesty

If anything is sacred the human body is sacred.

Walt Whitman

Modesty

If Heaven had only granted me five more years I could have become a real painter.

Katsushika Hokusai

Modesty

Immodest words admit if no defense, for want of decency is want of sense.

Wentworth Dillon

Modesty

In psychological terms, modesty is the curb, or throttle we place on our instincts—especially on our sexual drives. The ability to control our emotions and behavior, to impose on ourselves a certain restraint, is one of the most important differences between man and the animals that crawl on the earth and swing from the trees.

Dr. Richard H. Hoffman

Modesty

Man is the Only Animal that blushes. Or needs to.

Mark Twain

Modesty

Modesty antedates clothes and will be resumed when clothes are no more.

Mark Twain

Modesty

Modesty died when false modesty was born.

Mark Twain

Modesty

Modesty is the chastity of merit, the virginity of noble souls.

Girardin

Modesty

People will forgive anything but beauty and talent. So I am doubly unpardonable.

James McNeill Whistler

Modesty

Tell me, on your soul and conscience, do you believe that anything of mine will live?

Alexandre Dumas Pere

Modesty

Telling his class that a critic had called him a second Beethoven, Bruckner said, "How can anybody dare to say such a thing!"

Anton Bruckner

Modesty

What's a Sun-Dial in the Shade?

Benjamin Franklin

Money

A disordered currency is one of the greatest political evils.

Daniel Webster

Money

A fool and his money are invited places.

Merit Crossword Puzzles

Money

A little wanton money, which burned out the bottom of his purse.

Sir Thomas More

Works, p. 195

Money

After a meal in a posh restaurant—you feel like an after dinner mint—the one in Denver.

Joey Adams

Money

After getting the first hundred pounds, it is more easy to get the second, money itself being of a prolific nature.

Benjamin Franklin

Money

All the perplexities, confusions, and distresses in America arise, not from defects in their constitution or confederation, not from a want of honor or virtue, so much as from downright ignorance of the nature of coin, credit, and circulation.

John Adams, letter to Thomas Jefferson, August 25, 1787.—The Works of John Adams, ed. Charles Francis Adams, vol. 8, p. 447 (1853).

Money

All things obey money.

Desiderius Erasmus (1465-1536)

Adagia (1500)

Money

Aristocracy of feudal parchment has passed away with a mighty rushing; and now, by a natural course, we arrive at aristocracy of moneybag.

Thomas Carlyle

The French Revolution.

Money

As a general rule, nobody has money who ought to have it.

Benjamin Disraeli

Money

As this body has no authority to make anything whatever a tender in payment of private debts, it necessarily follows that nothing but gold and silver coin can be made a legal tender for that purpose, and that Congress cannot authorize the payment in any species of paper currency of any other debts but those due to the United States, or such debts of the United States as may, by special contract, be made payable in such paper.

Albert Gallatin, Considerations on the Currency and Banking System of the United States, 1831, in The Writings of Albert Gallatin, ed. Henry Adams, vol. 3, p. 235 (1879).

Money

Beware of ambition for wealth; for there is nothing so characteristic of narrowness and littleness of soul as the love of riches; and there is nothing more honorable or noble than indifference to money.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

De Officiis, bk. 1.

Money

But it is pretty to see what money will do.

Samuel Pepys

Money

Gives me some kind of content to remember how painful it is sometimes to keep money, as well as to get it.

Samuel Pepys

Money

God gave me my money. I believe the power to make money is a gift from God . to be developed and used to the best of our ability for the good of mankind. Having been endowed with the gift I possess, I believe it is my duty to make money and still more money and to use the money I make for the good of my fellow man according to the dictates of my conscience.

John D. Rockefeller, interview in 1905.—Peter Collier and David Horowitz, The Pockefellers, an American Dynasty, chapter 3, p. 48 (1976).Rockefeller assumed giving to charity was a Christian duty, and did so throughout his life. Later in life he began to "have the semimystical feeling that he had been especially selected as the frail vessel for the great fortune" (p. 48).

Money

He that goes a borrowing goes a sorrowing.

Benjamin Franklin

Money

He who tampers with the currency robs labor of its bread.

Senator Daniel Webster, speech delivered at Niblo's Saloon, New York City, March 15, 1837.—The Works of Daniel Webster, 10th ed., vol. 1, p. 377 (1857).

Money

How come financial advisers never seem to be as wealthy as they think they can make us.

Doug Larson

Money

I want no money raised by injustice.

Canute The Great

Letter of state, "to all the nation of the English, both nobles and commoners," after pilgrimage to Rome, 1027.

Money

If making money is a slow process, using it is quickly done.

Ihara Saikaku

Money

If the American people ever allow private banks to control the issuance of their currency, first by inflation and then by deflation, the banks and corporations that will grow up around them will deprive the people of all their property until their children will wake up homeless on the continent their fathers conquered.

Attributed to Thomas Jefferson. Although Jefferson was opposed to paper money, this quotation is obviously spurious. Inflation was listed in Webster's dictionary of 1864, according to the Oxford English Dictionary, but the OED gives 1920 as the earliest use of deflation.

Money

If you make money your god, it will plague you like the devil.

Henry Fielding

Money

If you would know the value of money, go and try to borrow some.

Benjamin Franklin

Money

In truth, the gold standard is already a barbarous relic.

John Maynard Keynes, Monetary Beforin, p. 187 (1924).

Money

It is physically impossible for a well-educated, intellectual, or brave man to make money the chief object of his thoughts.

John Ruskin

Money

Make money, money by fair means if you can, if not, by any means money.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Epistles, I, i, 66

Money

Money alone sets all the world in motion.

Publilius Syrus

Money

Money is a terrible master but an excellent servant.

P. T. Barnum

Money

Money is like muck, not good unless it be spread.

Francis Bacon

Essays. Of Seditions and Troubles.

Money

Money is power, and you ought to be reasonably ambitious to have it.

Russell H. Conwell, Acres of Diamonds, p. 20 (1915).Conwell, founder and first president of Temple University, delivered this address more than 6,000 times from 1877 until his death in 1925.

Money

Money is the symbol of duty, it is the sacrament of having done for mankind that which mankind wanted.

Samuel Butler

Money

Money, no doubt, is a power; but a power of well defined and narrow limits. It will purchase plenty, but not peace; it will furnish your table with luxuries, but not you with an appetite to enjoy them; it will surround your sick bed with physicians, but not restore health to your sickly frame; it will encompass you with a cloud of flatterers, but never procure you one true friend.

Guthrie

Money

No amount of pay ever made a good soldier, a good teacher, a good artist, or a good workman.

John Ruskin

Money

O accurst craving for gold!

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aeneid, III, 57

Money

Put not your trust in money, put your money in a trust.

Oliver Wendell Holmes

Money

Subject to a kind of disease, which at that time they called lack of money.

Francois Rabelais

Garguntua and Pantagruel, II,

Rabelais to the Reader, ch. 16

Money

The Alliance for Progress is an alliance between one millionaire and many beggars.

Fidel Castro, interview with C. L. Sulzberger, The New York Times, November 7, 1964, p. 26.

Money

The almighty dollar, that great object of universal devotion throughout our land, seems to have no genuine devotees in these peculiar villages.

Washington Irving

Money

The bank mania is one of the most threatening of these imitations. It is raising up a monied aristocracy in our country which has already set the government at defiance, and although forced at length to yield a little on this first essay of their strength, their principles are unyielded and unyielding.

Thomas Jefferson, letter to Josephus B. Stuart, May 10, 1817.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Andrew A. Lipscomb, vol. 15, p. 112 (1904).

Money

The best way to destroy the capitalist system is to debauch the currency.

Attributed to Vladimir Ilich (Ulyanov) Lenin by John Maynard Keynes, The Economic Consequences of the Peace, p. 235 (1920, reprinted 1971). Keynes says, "Lenin is said to have declared…" Despite careful searching by the European Division of the Library Of Congress, this has not been found in Lenin's writings and remains unverifled.

Money

The peace has made one general mal-content

Of these high-market patriots; war was rent!

And will they not repay the treasures lent?

No: good, ill, health, wealth, joy, or discontent,

Being, end, aim, religion—rent, rent, rent!

Lord Byron

The Age of Bronze, 1823.

Money

The Romans worshipped their standard; and the Roman standard happened to be an eagle. Our standard is only one tenth of an eagle, a dollar, but we make all even by adoring it with tenfold devotion.

Edgar Allan Poe

Money

There are few ways in which a man can be more innocently employed than in getting money.

Samuel Johnson

Money

There is no fortress so strong that money cannot take it.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

In Verrem.

Money

They roar'd, they dined, they drank, they swore they meant

To die for England—why then live?—for rent!

Lord Byron

The Age of Bronze, 1823.

Money

This only grant me, that my means may lie

Too low for envy, for contempt too high.

Abraham Cowley

The Vote

Money

Though mothers and fathers give us life, it is money alone which preserves it.

Ihara Saikaku

Money

Though we have abolished poverty and the fear of it, and inordinate luxury with the hope of it, we have not touched the greater part of the motives which underlay the love of money in former times, or any of those which prompted the supremer sorts of effort. The coarser motives, which no longer move us, have been replaced by high motives wholly unknown to the mere wage earners of your age.

Edward Bellamy

Looking Backward, 1887.

Money

To be poor and independent is very nearly an impossibility.

William Cobett (1762-1835)

Advice to Young Men, 2, "To a Youth"

Money

When I was young I thought that money was the most important thing in life; now that I am old I know that it is.

Oscar Wilde

Money

When it is a question of money, everybody is of the same religion.

Voltaire

Money

When you come to analyze the love of money which was the general impulse to effort in your day, you find that the dread of want and desire of luxury were two of several motives which the pursuit of money represented; the others, and with many the more influential, being desire of power, of social position and reputation for ability and success.

Edward Bellamy

Looking Backward, 1887.

Money

Year after year they voted cent per cent,

Blood, sweat, and tear-wrung millions—

why? for rent!

Lord Byron

The Age of Bronze, 1823.

Money

You must spend money, if you wish to make money.

Plautus

Asinaria

Morality

Closed eyes can't see the white roses,

Cold hands can't hold them, you know, Breath that is stilled cannot gather the odors that sweet from them blow, Death, with a peace beyond dreaming, Its children of earth doth endow; Life is the time we can help them, So give them the flowers now!

Here are the struggles and striving, Here are the cares and the tears; Now is the time to be smoothing The frowns and the furrows and fears. What to closed eyes are kind sayings? What to hushed heart is deep vow? Naught can avail after parting, So give them the flowers now!

Just a kind word or a greeting; Just a warm grasp or a smile—These are the flowers that will lighten The burdens for many a mile. After the journey is over Morialiiy

What is the use of them; how

Can they canry them who must be carried?

Oh, give them the flowers now!

Blooms from the happy heart's garden plucked in the spirit of love; Blooms that are earthly reflections Of flowers that blossom above. Words cannot tell what a measure Of blessings such gifts will allow To dwell in the lives of many, So give them the flowers now!

Attributed to Leigh Mitchell Hodges. Unverified. The authorship of the poem, "Give Them the Flowers Now," is anonymous in The World's Famous Short Poems and Prose Selections, comp. James G. Lawson, p. 177 (1927). This poem is credited to Hodges in Heart Throbs in Prose and Verse, comp. Joe Mitchell Chapple, p. 35 (1947), a work based on readers' contributions.

Morality

A contradiction between the laws and the natural feelings of mankind arises from the oaths which are required of an accused, to the effect that he will be a truthful man when it is his greatest interest to be false; as if a man could really swear to contribute to his own destruction, or as if religion would not be silent with most men when their interest spoke on the other side.

Cesare Bonesana di Beccaria

Dei Delitti e delle Pene (On Crimes and Punishments), 1764.

Morality

At thirty, man suspects himself a fool;

Knows it at forty, and reforms his plan;

At fifty, chides his infamous delay,

Pushes his prudent purpose to resolve;

In all the magnanimity of thought

Resolves, and re-resolves; then dies the same.

And why? Because he thinks himself immortal.

All men think all men mortal but themselves.

Edward Young, Night Thoughts, 1, lines 417-24, The Complete Works, Poetry and Prose, ed. James Nichols, p. 13 (1854, reprinted 1968).

Morality

Chastity is not chastity in an old man, but a disability to be unchaste.

John Donne (1573-1631)

Sermons (1619)

Morality

Concern with morality makes every work of the imagination false and stupid.

Gustave Flaubert (1821-1880)

Letters, To Mlle. Louise Colet, January 2, 1864

Morality

Dante once said that the hottest places in hell are reserved for those who in a period of moral crisis maintain their neutrality.

President John F. Kennedy, remarks in Bonn, West Germany, at the signing of a charter establishing the German Peace Corps, June 24, 1963.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: John F Kennedy, 1963, p. 503.

This remark may have been inspired by the passage from Dante Alighieri's La Comedia Divina, trans. Geoffrey L. Bickersteth, "Inferno," canto 3, lines 35-42 (1972):

by those disbodied wretches who were loth

when living, to be either blamed or praised.

Fear to lose beauty caused the heavens to expel

these caitiffs; nor, lest to the damned they then

gave cause to boast, receives them the deep hell.

A more modern-sounding translation: "They are mixed with that repulsive choir of angels…undecided in neutrality. Heaven, to keep its beauty, cast them out, but even Hell itself would not receive them for fear the wicked there might glory over them."Dante's Inferno, trans. Mark Musa, p. 21 (1971).

Morality

Don't strew me with roses after I'm dead.

When Death claims the light of my brow,

No flowers of life will cheer me: instead

You may give me my roses now!

Thomas F. Healey, "Give Me My Roses Now."—The Home Book of QIiototions, ed. Burton Stevenson, 10th ed., p. 1578 (1967). Unverified.

Morality

Ethics, too, are nothing but reverence for life. That is what gives me the fundamental principle of morality, namely, that good consists in maintaining, promoting, and enhancing life, and that destroying, injuring, and limiting life are evil.

Albert Schweitzer, Civilization and Ethics, Preface.—The Philosophy of Civilization, trans. C. T. Campion, part 2, p. 79 (1949, reissued 1981).

Morality

Even in war moral power is to physical as three parts out of four.

Attributed to Napoleon.—Maturin M. Ballou, Treasury of Thought, p. 407 (1899). Unverified.A handwritten note in Congressional Research Service files says that the War Department Library had searched many times without success for a different version: "Morale is to material as is the ratio of three to one."

Morality

Faded the flower and all its budded charms,

Faded the sight of beauty from my eyes,

Faded the shape of beauty from my arms,

Faded the voice, warmth, whiteness, paradise!

Vanish'd unseasonably—

John Keats, "Sonnet to Fanny Brawne," lines 5-9, The Complete Poetical Works of John Keats, p. 379 (1900).

Morality

For what end shall we be connected with men, of whom this is the character and conduct?….Is it, that we may see our wives and daughters the victims of legal prostitution; soberly dishonoured; speciously polluted; the outcasts of delicacy and virtue, and the lothing of God and man?

Timothy Dwight, The Duty of Americans, at the Present Crisis, pp. 20-21 (1798).Dwight, president of Yale, preached this sermon on July 4, 1798, at New Haven, Connecticut. In 1798, much of the anti-French feeling was directed at the Jeffersonians, who were the champions in America of the French Revolution. In the congressional elections that year, the Jeffersonians lost heavily as the Federalists won control of both the House and the Senate. In this sermon, Dwight warned that a victory for the Jeffersonians meant lustful moral depravity.—Saul K. Padover, Jefferson, pp. 251-52 (1942).

Morality

Give me chastity and continence, but not just now.

St. Augustine

Confessions, VIII, 7

Morality

I wrote my name upon the sand,

And trusted it would stand for aye;

But, soon, alas! the refluent sea

Had washed my feeble lines away.

Horatio Alger, Jr.,

"Carving a Name," lines 1-4,

Alger Street: The Poetry of Horatio Alger Jr,

ed. Gilbert K. Westgard II, p. 53 (1964).

Morality

If someone with whom one is having an affair keeps on mentioning some woman whom he knew in the past, however long ago it is since they separated, one is always irritated.

Sei Shonagon

Makura no Soshi

Morality

It is said an Eastern monarch once charged his wise men to invent him a sentence, to be ever in view, and which should be true and appropriate in all times and situations. They presented him the words: "And this, too, shall pass away." How much it expresses! How chastening in the hour of pride!—how consoling in the depth of affliction!

Abraham Lincoln, address before the Wisconsin State Agricultural Society, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, September 30, 1859.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P Basler, vol. 3, pp. 481-82 (1953).

Many versions of this story exist. Another one is: "The Sultan asked for a Signet motto, that should hold good for Adversity or Prosperity. Solomon gave him, 'This also shall pass away.'"—Edward Fitzgerald, Polonius: A Collection of Wise Saws and Modern Instances, item 112, p. 80 (1901).

The words In neez bogzarad, which can be translated, "This also shall pass," appear in the Diven of the twelfth century Persian poet and philosopher, Sana'I of Ghaznl, ed. Mazahir Musaffa, p. 92 (1957).

Morality

Keep yourself clean and bright. You are the windows through which you must view the world.

Author Unknown

Morality

Moral habits, induced by public practices, are far quicker in making their way into men's private lives, than the failings and faults of individuals are in infecting the city at large.

Plutarch

Lives, Lysander, sec. 17

Morality

Morality without religion is only a kind of dead reckoning, an endeavor to find our place on a cloudy sea by measuring the distance we have run, but without any observation of the heavenly bodies.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Morality

Morals today are corrupted by our worship of riches.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

De Officiis, bk. 2.

Morality

My poems are naughty, but my life is pure.

Martial [Marcus Valerius Martialis]

Epigrams, I, 4

Morality

Philip, remember that thou art mortal.

Author unknown. Supposedly, words Philip of Macedon had a servant repeat in the audience-room.—Samuel A. Bent, Short Sayings of Great Men, p. 437 (1882).Similarly, "Remember thou, too, art a man."—Words a slave would be bidden to whisper now and again to the triumphal conqueror returning in state to Rome.—John L. Stoddard, Lectures, vol. 8, pp. 263-64 (1911).

Morality

So fleet the works of men, back to their earth again;

Ancient and holy things fade like a dream.

Charles Kingsley, "Old and New," lines 3-4, Poems, p. 243 (1902).

Morality

The Master said, In vain have I looked for one whose desire to build up his moral power was as strong as sexual desire.

Confucius (551-479 B.C.)

Analects (tr. Arthur Waley), BK. XV, 12

Morality

The paths of glory lead but to the grave.

Thomas Gray, "Elegy Written in a Country Church Yard," line 36, The Complete Poems of Thomas Gray, ed. H. W. Starr and J. R. Hendrickson, p. 38 (1966). Originally published in 1751."Nobody knew that [Major General James] Wolfe, reciting Gray's Elegy in 1759 as he rowed up the St. Lawrence [to Quebec] the night before his death, said that 'he would prefer being the author of that poem to the glory of beating the French tomorrow,' until in 1815, in Vol. VII of the Transactions of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, appeared a biography of its secretary, John Robison, LL.D., professor of natural philosophy in the University of Edinburgh, who as a young man had been a midshipman in Wolfe's flotilla."—Carroll A. Wilson, "Familiar 'Small College' Quotations, II: Mark Hopkins and the Log," The Colophon, spring 1938, p. 204.

Morality

To assert that Christianity communicated to man moral truths previously unknown, argues on the part of the asserter either gross ignorance or else wilful fraud…the system of morals expounded in the New Testament contains no maxims which had not been previously enunciated.

Henry Thomas Buckle

Morality

To do good in return for evil, to love your enemy, is a height of morality to which it may be doubted whether the social instincts would, by themselves, have ever led us. It is necessary that these instincts, together with sympathy, should have been highly cultivated and extended by the aid of reason, and instruction, and the love or fear of God, before any such golden rule would ever be thought of and obeyed.

Charles (Robert) Darwin (1809-1882)

The Descent of Man (1871)

Morality

Wherever morality is based on theology, wherever right is made dependent on divine authority, the most immoral, unjust, infamous things can be justified and established.

Ludwig Feuerbach (1804-1872)

The Essence of Christianity (1841)

Morality

Wisdom, compassion and courage—these are the three universally recognized moral qualities of men.

Confucius (551-479 B.C.)

The Doctrine of Mean (tr. Legge), Ch. XXIII

Morning

The first hour of the day is the rudder of the morning.

Henry Ward Beecher

Mothers/Motherhood

An honest man is the best thing on the sod; but a mother and her babe is the noblest work of God.

Author Unknown

Mothers/Motherhood

Every mother who has lost an infant has gained a child of immortal youth.

George William Curtis

Mothers/Motherhood

Men are what their mothers made them.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Mothers/Motherhood

Men never recover from the ignorance of their mothers.

Pearl S. Buck

Mothers/Motherhood

Most of all the other beautiful things in life come by twos and threes; by dozens and hundreds. Plenty of roses; stars; sunsets; rainbows; brothers and sisters; aunts and cousins; but only one mother in the whole world.

Kate Douglas Wiggin

Mothers/Motherhood

The hand that rocks the cradle

Is the hand that rules the world.

William Ross Wallace

Mothers/Motherhood

When God thought of mother, He must have laughed with satisfaction, and framed it quickly—so rich, so deep, so divine, so full of soul, power and beauty, was the conception.

Henry Ward Beecher

Mothers/Motherhood

"M" is for the million things she gave me,

"O" means only that she's growing old,

"T" is for the tears were shed to save me,

"H" is for her heart of purest gold;

"E" is for her eyes, with love-light shining,

"R" means right, and right she'll always be,

Put them all together, they spell "MOTHER,"

A word that means the world to me.

M-O-T-H-E-R (A Word That Means the World to Me),

words by Howard Johnson, music by Theodore Morse,

pp. 2-5, c 1915, renewed 1943 Leo Feist, Inc.

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Mothers/Motherhood

All that I am, or hope to be, I owe to my angel mother.

Attributed to Abraham Lincoln.

Josiah G. Holland, The Life of Abraham Lincoln, p. 23 (1866),

and George Alfred Townsend, The Real Life of Abraham Lincoln,

p. 6 (1867). According to the latter, Lincoln made this remark to

his law partner, William Herndon.

Lincoln's natural mother, Nancy Hanks Lincoln, died when he was

nine years old and his father remarried the following year.

His stepmother, Sarah Bush (Johnston) Lincoln, was loved and

respected by Lincoln throughout her life, as evidenced in the many

biographical studies of Lincoln. Benjamin P. Thomas says in

Abraham Lincoln, p. 12 (1952): "The boy Abraham adored her.

Recollection of his own mother dimmed. And in later years he

called this woman, who filled her place so well, 'my angel mother.'"

The Macmillan Book of Proverbs, Maxims, and Famous Phrases,

ed. Burton Stevenson, p. 1627 (1965), comments that the remark

referred to Lincoln's stepmother. But the biographers of Lincoln's

natural mother claim the remark referred to her: Caroline Hanks

Hitchcock, Nancy Hanks, p. 105 (1899) and Charles Ludwig,

Nancy Hanks: Mother of Lincoln, p. 84 (1965).

Mothers/Motherhood

Evening star, you bring all things which the bright dawn has scattered: you bring the sheep, you bring the goat, you bring the child back to its mother.

Sappho

Fragment 120

Mothers/Motherhood

I cannot bear a mother's tears.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aeneid, IX, 289

Mothers/Motherhood

I have given suck, and know

How tender 'tis to love the babe that milks me:

I would, while it was smiling in my face,

Have pluck'd my nipple from his boneless gums,

And dash'd the brains out, had I so sworn as you

Have done to this.

William Shakespeare

Macbeth, I, vii, 54

Mothers/Motherhood

O fairer daughter of a fair mother!

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Odes, I, xvi, 1

Mothers/Motherhood

O men, respect women who have borne you.

The Koran

Chapter 4

Mothers/Motherhood

You may have tangible wealth untold;

Cachets of jewels and coffers of gold.

Richer than I you can never be—

I had a mother who read to me.

Strickland Gillilian

Motives

Dreadful will be the day when the world becomes contented, when one great universal satisfaction spreads itself over the world. Sad will be the day for every man when he becomes absolutely contented with the life that he is living, with the thoughts that he is thinking, with the deeds that he is doing, when there is not forever beating at the doors of his soul some great desire to do something larger which he knows that he was meant and made to do because he is a child of God.

Phillips Brooks, Daily Thoughts from Phillips Brooks, p. 85 (1893).

Motives

However brilliant an action it should not be esteemed great unless the result of a great motive.

Duc de la Rochefoucauld

Motives

If no action is to be deemed virtuous for which malice can imagine a sinister motive, then there never was a virtuous action.

Thomas Jefferson

Motives

Lord, grant that I may always desire more than I can accomplish.

Michelangelo

Motives

The plea of good intentions is not one that can be allowed to have much weight in passing historical judgment upon a man whose wrong-headedness and distorted way of looking at things produced, or helped to produce, such incalculable evil; there is a wide political applicability in the remark attributed to a famous Toxan, to the effect that he might, in the end, pardon a man who shot him on purpose, but that he would surely never forgive one who did so accidentally.

Theodore Roosevelt, writing of John C. Calhoun, Thomas Hart Benton, chapters, p. 111 (1897, reprinted 1968).

Motives

The stoical scheme of supplying our wants by lopping off our desires is like cutting off our feet when we want shoes.

Jonathan Swift

Motives

The value the world sets upon motives is often grossly unjust and inaccurate.

H. L. Mencken, A Mencken Chrestomathy, p. 12 (1949). This is the opening sentence of his essay, "The Scientist' fIrst published in The Smart Set, August 1919.

Motives

There is a desire deep within the soul which drives man from the seen to the unseen, to philosophy and to the divine.

Kahlil Gibran, "Al Ghazali," Mirrors of the Soul, trans. Joseph Sheban, p. 49 (1965).

Motives

We must not inquire too curiously into motives…. they are apt to become feeble in the utterance: the aroma is mixed with the grosser air. We must keep the germinating grain away from the light.

George Eliot (Mary Ann Evans), Middlemarch, chapter 2, p. 13 (1977). Originally published in 1871-1872.

Motives

We would often be ashamed of our finest actions if the world understood all the motives which produced them.

Duc de la Rochefoucauld

Motives

Will is to grace as the horse is to the rider.

St. Augustine

De Libero Arbitrio

Murder

As the inventor of murder, and the father of art, Cain must have been a man of first-rate genius.

Thomas de Quincey (1785-1859)

Essay: Murder Considered as One of the Fine Arts (1827)

Murder

There is nothing more dread and more shameless than a woman who plans such deeds in her heart as the foul deed which she plotted when she contrived her husband's murder.

Homer

The Odyssey, XI, 427

Murder

To kill someone for committing murder is a punishment incomparably worse than the crime itself. Murder by legal sentence is immeasurably more terrible than murder by brigands.

Fyodor Dostoyevski (1821-1881)

The Idiot (1868)

Murphy's Law

If there is a wrong way to do something, then someone will do it.

Edward A. Murphy, Jr.,

"Murphy's Law."—Robert L. Forward, "Murphy Lives!"

Science 83, January-February 1983, p. 78. Commonly quoted as,

"If anything can go wrong, it will."—The Concise Oxford Dictionary

of Proverbs, ed. J. A. Simpson, p. 4 (1982), provides

interesting historical notes on its origin and use.

A longer version appeared in a story about Murphy

and his law in People, January 31, 1983, p. 82:

"If there's more than one way to do a job and one of those ways

will end in disaster, then somebody will do it that way."

Music

Music oft hath such a charm

To make bad good, and good provoke to harm.

William Shakespeare

Measure for Measure, IV, i, 16

Music

Among all men on the earth bards have a share of honor and reverence, because the muse has taught them songs and loves the race of bards.

Homer

The Odyssey, VIII, 479

Music

Arms and the man I sing.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aeneid, I, 1

Music

Beethoven can write music, thank God—but he can do nothing else on earth.

Ludwig van Beethoven

Letter to Ferdinand Ries.

Music

Brahms has very little melodic invention…he excites and irritates our musical senses without wishing to satisfy them.

Peter Ilich Tchaikovsky

Music

Draw Daphnis from the town, my songs, draw Daphnis home.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Elogues, VIII, 68

Music

Every composer knows the anguish and despair occasioned by forgetting ideas which one has no time to write down.

Hector Berlioz

Music

Everything he touches turns to music.

Robert Schumann

of Franz Peter Schubert

Music

Had I learned to fiddle, I should have done nothing else.

Samuel Johnson

Music

I always wish that the last movement [of the Regenlieder Sonata] might accompany me in my journey from here to the next world.

Clara Schumann

to Brahms

Music

I can't sing. As a singist I am not a success. I am saddest when I sing. So are those who hear me. They are sadder even than I am.

Charles Browne

Music

I don't want anyone to admire my pants in a museum.

Frederic Chopin

Music

I know only two tunes: one of them is "Yankee Doodle," and the other isn't.

Ulysses S. Grant

Music

I who once played shepherd's songs and in my brash youth sang of you, O Tityrus, beneath the spreading beech.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Georgics, IV, 565

Music

I write [music] as a sow piddles.

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Music

Is music and sweet poetry agree.

Richard Barnfield

Poems: To His Friend, Mr. R. L.

Music

Let us go singing as far as we go: the road will be less tedious.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Elogues, IX, 64

Music

Music is well said to be the speech of angels.

Thomas Carlyle

Music

Music owes as much to Bach as religion to its founder.

Robert Schumann

Music

Musick and women I cannot but give way to, whatever my business is.

Samuel Pepys

Music

Musick is the thing of the world that I love most.

Samuel Pepys

Music

Oh cricket is to cricket dear, and ant for ant doth long,

The hawk's the darling of his fere, and o' me the muse and her song.

Theocritus

The Third Country Singing Match, l. 31

Music

One and the same thing can at the same time be good, bad, and indifferent, e.g., music is good to the melancholy, bad to those who mourn, and neither good nor bad to the deaf.

Benedict Spinoza

Music

One can't judge Wagner's opera Lohengrin after a first hearing, and I certainly don't intend hearing it a second time.

Gioacchino Rossini

Music

People compose for many reasons: to become immortal; because the pianoforte happens to be open; because they want to become a millionaire; because of the praise of friends; because they have looked into a pair of beautiful eyes; for no reason whatsoever.

Robert Schumann

Music

She poured out the liquid music of her voice to quench the thirst of her spirit.

Nathaniel Hawthorne

Music

Such sweet complusion doth in music lie.

John Milton

Arcades, 68

Music

The most poetic musician who ever lived.

Franz Liszt

of Franz Peter Schubert

Music

The sweetest sounds to mortals given

Are heard in Mother, Home and Heaven.

William Goldsmith Brown

Music

The trumpet shall be heard on high

The dead shall live, the living die,

And Music shall untune the sky!

John Dryden

Music

They once taught Hesiod beauteous song, when he was shepherding his sheep below holy Helicon.

Hesiod

Ib. 22

Music

Wagner had some wonderful moments but awful half hours.

Gioacchino Rossini

Music

What passion cannot Music raise and quell?

John Dryden

Music

What passion cannot Music raise and quell?

John Dryden

A Song for St. Cecilia's Day, 2

Music

When words leave off, music begins.

Heinrich Heine

Music

With the muses of Helicon let us begin our singing.

Hesiod

The Theogony, L. 1

Music

Without music life would be a mistake.

Friedrich Nietzsche

Names

A good name is like a precious ointment; it filleth all around about, and will not easily away; for the odors of ointments are more durable than those of flowers.

Francis Bacon

Essays, Of Praise

Names

A name illustrious and revered by nations.

Lucan

The Civil War, IX, 203

Names

A nickname is the hardest stone that the devil can throw at a man.

William Hazlitt

Names

Company, villanous company, hath been the spoil of me.

William Shakespeare

King Henry IV, I, III, iii, 10

Names

Good name in man and woman, dear my lord,

Is the immediate jewel of their souls:

Who steals my purse steals trash; 'tis something, nothing;

'Twas mine, 'tis his, and has been slave to thousands;

But he that filches from me my good name

Robs me of that which not enriches him,

And makes me poor indeed.

William Shakespeare

Othello, III, iii, 155

Names

Names are not always what they seem. The common Welsh name Bzjxxllwcp is pronounced Jackson.

Mark Twain

Names

The Ancient Mariner would not have taken so well if it had been called The Old Sailor.

Samuel Butler

Names

There, I guess King George will be able to read that!

John Hancock

Names

We think that Paradise and Calvarie,

Christs Crosse, and Adams tree, stood in one place;

Looke, Lord, and finde both Adams met in me;

As the first Adams sweat surrounds my face,

May the last Adams blood my soule embrace.

John Donne (1573-1631)

"Hymne to God My God, in My Sicknesse" (1631 or ?1623)

Names

What's in a name? That which we call a rose

By any other name would smell as sweet.

William Shakespeare

Romeo and Juliet, II, ii, 43

Nation

A nation never fails but by suicide.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Journals

Nation

A nation that can not preserve itself ought to die, and it will die—die in the grasp of the evils it is too feeble to overthrow.

Senator Morris Sheppard, remarks in the Senate, December 18, 1914, Congressional Becord, vol. 52, p. 338.

Nation

An old, and haughty nation proud in arms.

John Milton

Comus, 33

Nation

Cleanse the body of this nation

Through the glory of the Lord.

Henry Scott Holland, "Judge Eternal, Throned in Splendor. "—Service Book and Hymnal of the Lutheran Church in America, music ed., no. 343 (1958).

Nation

Great nations rise and fall. The people go from bondage to spiritual truth, to great courage, from courage to liberty, from liberty to abundance, from abundance to selfishness, from selfishness to complacency, from complacency to apathy, from apathy to dependence, from dependence back again to bondage.

Author unknown. Attributed to Benjamin Disraeli. Unverifled.

Nation

Great nations write their autobiographies in three manuscripts, the book of their deeds, the book of their words and the book of their art. Not one of these books can be understood unless we read the two others, but of the three the only trustworthy one is the last.

John Ruskin, St. Mark's Best: The History of Venice, Preface, p. 1 (1885).

Nation

Happy are all free peoples, too strong to be dispossessed.

But blessed are those among nations who dare to be strong for the rest!

Elizabeth Barrett Browning, "A Court Lady"' stanza 20, The Poetical Works of Elizabeth Barrett Browning, p. 418 (1974).

Nation

I know three things must always be

To keep a nation strong and free.

One is a hearthstone bright and dear,

With busy, happy loved ones near.

One is a ready heart and hand

To love, and serve, and keep the land.

One is a worn and beaten way

To where the people go to pray.

So long as these are kept alive,

Nation and people will survive.

God keep them always, everywhere—

The home, the heart, the place of prayer.

Author unknown, "Three Things. "—Sourcebook of Poetry, comp. Al Bryant, p. 514 (1968). A variation of this poem appeared in the Congressional Becord, January 14, 1959, vol. 105, Appendix, p. A144.

Nation

I, John Brown, am now quite certain that the crimes of this guilty land will never be purged away; but with blood. I had, as I now think, vainly flattered myself that without very much bloodshed it might be done.

John Brown

Last written statement, handed to a guard, December 2, 1859.

Nation

If I had remained another day in that horrible….United States, where there is neither hope nor faith, nor charity, I should have died without being sick.

Honore de Balzac

Quoted in Life, September 12, 1955.

Nation

It was always yet the trick of our English nation, if they have a good thing, to make it too common.

William Shakespeare

King Henry IV, II, I, ii, 244

Nation

Not gold but only men can make

A people great and strong;

Men who for truth and honor's sake

Stand fast and suffer long.

Brave men who work while others sleep,

Who dare while others fly—

They build a nation's pillars deep

And lift them to the sky.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (?), "A Nation's Strength," stanzas 5 and 6.—Masterpieces of Religious Verse, ed. James Dalton Morrison, p. 459 (1948).Granger's Index to Poetry, 6th ed., p. 898 (1973) says the author is unknown and that this is wrongly attributed to Emerson; the poem is not found in Emerson's Complete Works (1903).

Nation

The Jews are among the aristocracy of every land; if a literature is called rich in the possession of a few classic tragedies, what shall we say to a national tragedy lasting for fifteen hundred years, in which the poets and the actors were also the heroes.

George Eliot

Daniel Deronda

Nation

There is no such thing as a little country. The greatness of a people is no more determined by their number than the greatness of a man is determined by his height.

Victor Hugo

Nationalism

Every nation ridicules other nations, and all are right.

Arthur Schopenhauer

Nationalism

If there be a God, I think he would like me to paint Africa British-Red as possible.

Cecil Rhodes

Nationalism

Whenever a single definite object is made the supreme end of the state, be it the advantage of a class, the safety or the power of the country, the greatest happiness of the greatest number, or the support of any speculative idea, the State becomes, for the time, inevitably absolute.

Lord Acton (John E. E. Dalberg)

Nationality. The Home and Foreign Review, July, 1862.

Reprinted in Essays on Freedom and Power.

Nature

Is this the noble nature

Whom passion could not shake? whose solid virtue

The shot of accident nor dart of chance,

Could neither graze nor pierce?

William Shakespeare

Othello, IV, i, 276

Nature

A goose flies by a chart which the Royal Geographical Society could not improve.

Oliver Wendell Holmes

Nature

A movement of the soul contrary to nature in the sense of disobedience to reason, that is what passions are.

Clement of Alexandria (150?-220?), Church father

Stromateis

Nature

Adopt the pace of nature; her secret is patience.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Nature

All are but parts of one stupendous whole,

Whose body Nature is, and God the soul.

Alexander Pope

Nature

All things are artificial, for nature is the art of God.

Thomas Browne

Nature

Beauty is Nature's coin, must not be hoarded,

But must be current, and the good thereof

Consists in mutual and partaken bliss.

John Milton

Comus, 739

Nature

By some fortuitous concourse of atoms…

Marcus Tullius Cicero (106-43 B.C.)

De Natura Deorum (44 B.C.)

Nature

Conservation means development as much as it does protection.

Theodore Roosevelt

Nature

Death, like birth, is a secret of Nature.

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

Meditations, IV, 5

Nature

Every generation a new crop of fools comes on….They think they can beat the orderly universe. They conceive themselves to be more clever than the eternal laws. They snatch goods from Nature's store, and run….And one by one they all come back to Nature's counter, and pay—pay in tears, in agony, in despair; pay as fools before them have paid….Nature keeps books pitilessly. Your credit with her is good, but she collects; there is no land you can flee to and escape her bailiffs….She never forgets; she sees to it that you pay her every cent you owe, with interest.

Dr. Frank Crane

Nature

Exclusive property is a theft against nature.

Jacques Pierre Brissot

Theorie des lois criminelles, 1780.

Nature

For all that nature by her mother wit

Could frame in earth.

Edmund Spenser

The Faerie Queene, IV, 10, 21

Nature

For Art may err, but Nature cannot miss.

John Dryden

Nature

Further, the atoms are unlimited in size and number, and they are borne along in the universe in a vortex, and thereby generate all composite things—fire, water, air, earth; for even these are conglomerations of given atoms.

Democritus (460 B.C.?-370 B.C.?)

Nature

Glorious indeed is the world of God around us, but more glorious the will of God within us. There lies the land of Song; there lies the poet's native land.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Nature

He would adore my gifts instead of me,

And rest in Nature, not the God of Nature:

So both should losers be.

George Herbert

The Temple. The Pulley, 3

Nature

How cunningly nature hides every wrinkle of inconceivable antiquity under roses and violets and morning dew.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Nature

How far, O rich, do you extend your senseless avarice? Do you intend to be the sole inhabitants of the earth? Why do you drive out the fellow sharers of nature, and claim it all for yourselves? The earth was made for all, rich and poor, in common. Why do you rich claim it as your exclusive right?

St. Ambrose

Nature

I am as free as Nature first made man,

Ere the base laws of servitude began,

When wild in woods the noble savage ran.

John Dryden

The Conquest of Granada, I, I, 1

Nature

I belong to the Great Church which holds the wilderness within its starlit aisles; that claims the great and good of gold in every race and clime; that finds with joy the grain of gold in every creed, and floods with light and love the germs of good in every soul.

Robert G. Ingersoll

Nature

I have called this principle, by which each slight variation, if useful, is preserved, by the term of Natural Selection.

Charles (Robert) Darwin (1809-1882)

The Origin of Species (1859)

Nature

I've always regarded nature as the clothing of God.

Alan Havhamess

Nature

If Nature is against us, we shall fight Nature, and make it obey.

Simon Bolivar

Quoted by Waldo Frank.

Nature

In all things of nature there is something of the marvelous.

Aristotle

Parts of Animals, I, 5

Nature

In nature there are neither rewards nor punishments; there are only consequences.

Robert G. Ingersoll

Nature

It is far from easy to determine whether she [Nature] has proved to man a kind parent or a merciless stepmother.

Pliny the Elder

Natural History, VII, 1

Nature

Let nature and let Art do what they please,

When all's done, life's an incurable disease.

Abraham Cowley (1618-1667)

Pindaric Odes (1656), "To Dr. Scarborough"

Nature

Let us permit nature to have her way; she understands her business better than we do.

Michel de Montaigne

Nature

Man, being the servant and interpreter of nature, can do and understand so much and so much only as he has observed in fact or in thought of the course of nature: beyond this he neither knows anything nor can do anything.

Francis Bacon

Novum Organum, Aphorism i.

Nature

Mountains are earth's undecaying monuments.

Nathaniel Hawthorne

Nature

Nature admits no lie.

Thomas Carlyle

Latter-day Pamphlets.

Nature

Nature does nothing uselessly.

Aristotle

Nature

Nature has her own laws, and this is one—a fair day's wage for a fair day's work.

Benjamin Disraeli (Earl of Beaconsfield) (1804-1881)

Vivian Grey (1826)

Nature

Nature has planted in our minds an insatiable longing to see the truth.

Marcus Tullius Cicero (106-43 B.C.)

Tusculanes Disputationes (47-44 B.C.)

Nature

Nature I loved, and next to Nature, Art.

Walter Savage Landor

Nature

Nature is methodical, and doeth her work well. Time is never to be hurried.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Nature

Nature is often hidden; sometimes overcome; seldom extinguished.

Francis Bacon

Essays, Of Nature in Men

Nature

Nature is the Art of God.

Dante (or Durante) Alighieri (1265-1321)

Monarchy (1309), Book I

Nature

Nature is thought immersed in matter.

Bronson Alcott

Nature

Nature is upheld by antagonisms. Passions, resistance, danger are educators. We acquire the strength we have overcome.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Nature

Nature made him, and then broke the mold.

Ludovico Ariosto

Orlando Furioso, canto X, st. 84

Nature

Nature never sends a great man into the planet, without confiding the secret to another soul.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Nature

Nature teaches us more than she preaches. There are no sermons in stones. It is easier to get a spark out of a stone than a moral.

John Burroughs

Nature

Nature that framed us of our elements,

Warring within our breasts for regiment,

Doth teach us all to have aspiring minds:

Our souls, whose facuties can comprehend

The wondrous Architecture of the world:

And measure every wandering planet's course,

Still climbing after knowledge infinite,

And always moving as the restless Spheres,

Will us to wear ourselves and never rest,

Until we reach the ripest fruit of all,

That perfect bliss and sole felicity,

The sweet fruition of an earthly crown.

Christopher Marlowe

Tamburlaine the Great, pt. I, l. 869

Nature

Nature uses as little as possible of anything.

Johannes Kepler

Nature

Never does nature say one thing and wisdom another.

Juvenal

Nature

Now the summer came to pass

And flowers through the grass

Joyously sprang,

While all the tribes of birds sang.

Walther Von Der Vogelweide

Dream Song, st. 1

Nature

The finest qualities in our nature, like the bloom on fruits, can be preserved only by the most delicate handling.

Henry David Thoreau

Nature

The Master said, One who is by nature daring and is suffering from poverty will not long be lawful. Indeed, any man, save those that are truly Good, if their sufferings are very great, will be likely to rebel.

Confucius (551-479 B.C.)

Analects (tr. Arthur Waley), Bk. VIII, 10

Nature

The nation behaves well if it treats the natural resources as assets which it must turn over to the next generation increased; and not impaired in value.

Theodore Roosevelt

Nature

There are no words that can tell the hidden spirit of the wilderness, that can reveal its mystery, its melancholy and its charm.

Theodore Roosevelt

Nature

There is a delight in the hardy life of the open.

Theodore Roosevelt

Nature

Those who love nature can never be dull.

John Lubbock

Nature

To hold, as 'twere, the mirror up to nature; to show virtue her own feature, scorn her own image, and the very age and body of the time his form and pressure.

William Shakespeare

Hamlet, III, ii, 25

Nature

You may drive out Nature with a pitchfork, yet she still will hurry back.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Epistles, I, x, 24

Nature

You will find something more in woods than in books. Trees and stones will teach you that which you can never learn from masters.

St. Bernard

Epistle 106

Necessity

Necessity knows no law.

Benjamin Franklin

Needs

Buy what thou hast no need of, and ere long thou shalt sell thy necessaries.

Benjamin Franklin

Needs

For want of a Nail the Shoe was lost; for want of a Shoe the Horse was lost; and for want of a Horse the Rider was lost; being overtaken and slain by the Enemy, all for want of Care about a Horse-shoe Nail.

Benjamin Franklin, "Poor Richard's Almanack,' June 1758, The Complete Poor Richard Almanacks, facsimile ed., vol. 2, pp. 375, 377 (1970).

Needs

He who buys what he doesn't need steals from himself.

Swedish Proverb

Needs

Legem non habet necessitas. (Necessity knows no law).

St. Augustine

Soliloguium, 2.

Needs

Mater artium necessitas.

Necessity is the mother of invention.

Anonymous Latin Saying

Needs

My body is like a drifting cloud—I ask for nothing, I want nothing.

Kamo No Chomei

Hojoki (An Account of My Hut)

Needs

Necessity knows no law except to prevail.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 553

Needs

No member needs so great a number of muscles as the tongue; this exceeds all the rest in the number of its movements.

Leonardo da Vinci

Notebooks

Needs

Such are the rich. Because they preoccupy common goods, they take these goods as their own. If everyone would take only according to his needs and would leave the surplus to the needy, no one would be rich, no one poor, no one in misery.

St. Basil

Needs

The covetous man is ever in want.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Epistles, I, ii, 56

Needs

This last labor grant me, O Arethusa.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Elogues, X, 1

Neighbors

A bad neighbor is a misfortune, as much as a good one is a great blessing.

Hesiod

Neighbors

Good fences make good neighbors.

Robert Frost

Mending the Wall

Neighbors

Love your neighbor, yet pull not down your hedge.

George Herbert

Jacula Prudentum, 141

Neighbors

Most people repent of their sins by thanking God they ain't so wicked as their neighbors.

Josh Billings

Neighbors

No one has so big a house that he does not need a good neighbor.

Swedish Proverb

Neighbors

Your neighbor is the man who needs you.

Elbert Hubbard

Neutral

Neutral men are the devil's allies.

Edwin Hubbel Chapin

News

I well believe it, to unwilling ears;

None love the messenger who brings bad news.

Sophocles, Antigone, lines 276-77.—The Drimas of Sophocles, trans. Sir George Young, p. 16 (1888). A sentinel is speaking to Creon.

News

That proverbial saying, "Bad news travels fast and far."

Plutarch

Morals. Of Inquisitiveness

News

There is good news tonight.

Gabriel Heatter, There's Good News Tonight, p. 122 (1960).

Heatter began his evening radio newscasts with these words, trying to give hope when the news was grim during World War II.

News

This news is old enough, yet it is every day's news.

William Shakespeare

Measure for Measure, III, ii, 249

Newspapers

A newspaper is a rule unto itself. It has a soul for salvation or damnation. The intangibles of a newspaper are the men and women who make it. A newspaper can neither rise nor fall below its staff.

Heywood Broun

Newspapers

All I know is just what I read in the papers.

Will Rogers

Newspapers

All successful newspapers are ceaselessly querulous and bellicose. They never defend anyone or anything if they can help it; if the job is forced upon them, they tackle it by denouncing someone or something else.

Henry Mencken

Newspapers

Burning is no answer.

Camille Desmoulins (1760-1794)

Reply To Robespierre, January 7, 1794, On Burning His Newspaper, Vieux

Cordelier

Newspapers

But let me beseech you, Sir, not to let this letter get into a newspaper. Tranquillity, at my age, is the supreme good of life. I think it a duty, and it is my earnest wish, to take no further part in public affairs…. The abuse of confidence by publishing my letters has cost me more than all other pains.

Thomas Jefferson, letter to Charles Hammond, August 18, 1821.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Andrew A. Lipscomb, vol. 15, p. 331 (1903).

Newspapers

Covers Dixie Like the Dew.

The Atlanta (Georgia) Journal, slogan. Still in use.

Newspapers

For the newspaper is in all literalness the bible of democracy, the book out of which a people determines its conduct. It is the only serious book most people read. It is the only book they read every day.

Walter Lippmann, Liberty and the News, p. 47 (1920).

Newspapers

I generalized rashly: That is what kills political writing, this absurd pretence that you are delivering a great utterance. You never do. You are just a puzzled man making notes about what you think. You are not building the Pantheon, then why act like a graven image? You are drawing sketches in the sand which the sea will wash away.

Walter Lippmann, "Books and Things," The New Republic, August 7, 1915, p. 24. Lippmann's comments after reading a book on politics that displeased him.

Newspapers

I know that my retirement will make no difference in its cardinal principles, that it will always fight for progress and reform, never tolerate injustice or corruption, always fight demagogues of all parties, never belong to any party, always oppose privileged classes and public plunderers, never lack sympathy with the poor, always remain devoted to the public welfare, never be satisfied with merely printing news, always be drastically independent, never be afraid to attack wrong, whether by predatory plutocracy or predatory poverty.

Joseph Pulitzer, retirement speech, April 10, 1907.—St. Louis (Missouri) Post-Dispatch, April 11, 1907. Since November 1911 this has been in continuous use on the editorial page of that newspaper under the heading, "The Post-Dispatch Platform."

Newspapers

If words were invented to conceal thought, I think that newspapers are a great improvement on a bad invention.

Henry David Thoreau

Newspapers

So I became a newspaperman. I hated to do it but I couldn't find honest employment.

Attributed to Mark Twain (Samuel L. Clemens). Unverified. Never found by Twain authorities or the Twain Papers staff.

Newspapers

Take my ham away, take my eggs away, even my chili, but leave me my newspaper.

Will Rogers

Newspapers

The basis of our governments being the opinion of the people, the very first object should be to keep that right; and were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter. But I should mean that every man should receive those papers and be capable of reading them.

Thomas Jefferson, letter to Edward Carrington, January 16, 1787.—The Papers of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Julian P Boyd, vol. 11, p. 49 (1955).

Newspapers

What is to prevent a daily newspaper from being made the greatest organ of social life? Books have had their day—the theatres have had their day—the temple of religion has had its day. A newspaper can be made to take the lead of all these in the great movement of human thought and of human civilization.

James Gordon Bennett

Editorial, New York Morning Herald, August 19, 1836.

Newspapers

With newspapers, there is sometimes disorder; without them there is always slavery.

Benjamin Constant (1767-1834)

Quoted in editorial, San Francisco Chronicle

Nobility

As one lamp lights another, nor grows less,

So nobleness enkindleth nobleness.

James Russell Lowell, "Yussouf," lines 17-18, The Complete Poetical Works of James Russell Lowell, p. 376 (1900).Inscription above the statue of Art, Main Reading Room, Library of Congress. The inscription was selected by Charles W. Eliot, president of Harvard.

Nobility

BE NOBLE! and the nobleness that lies

In other men, sleeping, but never dead,

Will rise in majesty to meet thine own.

James Russell Lowell, "Sonnet IV," The Complete Poetical Works of James Russell Lowell, p. 20 (1900).

Nobility

Be noble, and the nobleness that

Lies in other men—sleeping but

Never dead—will rise in majesty

To meet thine own

Inscription on south facade of Union Station, Washington, D.C.

Nobility

I refer those actions which work out the good of the agent to courage, and those which work out the good of others to nobility. Therefore temperance, sobriety, and presence of mind in danger, etc., are species of courage; but modesty, clemency, etc., are species of nobility.

Benedict [Baruch] Spinoza

Ethics, III, 59: note

Nobility

Nobility is the one and only virtue.

Decimus Junius Juvenal

Satires, VIII, 20

Nobility

The hearts of the noble may be turned [by entreaty].

Homer

The Iliad, XV, 203

Nobility

Well, my art of midwifery is in most respects like theirs; but differs, in that I attend men and not wormen, and I look after their souls when they are in labor, and not after their bodies: and the triumph of my art is in thoroughly examining whether the thought which the mind of the young man brings forth is a false idol or a noble and true birth.

Plato

Dialogues, Theaetetus, 150

Nonsense/Trivia

Don't talk to me about a man's being able to talk sense; everyone can talk sense—can he talk nonsense?

William Pitt

Nonsense/Trivia

In a museum in Havana there are two skulls of Christopher Columbus, "one when he was a boy and one when he was a man."

Mark Twain

Nonsense/Trivia

It is a very sad thing that nowadays there is so little useless information.

Oscar Wilde

Nonsense/Trivia

One truth discovered, one pang of regret at not being able to express it, is better than all the fluency and flippancy in the world.

William Hazlitt

Nonsense/Trivia

The true, strong and sound mind is the mind that can embrace equally great things and small.

Samuel Johnson

Nonsense/Trivia

Thus so wretched is man that he would weary even without any cause for weariness…and so frivolous is he that, though full of thousand reasons for weariness, the least thing, such as playing billiards or hitting a ball, is sufficient to amuse him.

Blaise Pascal

Nuclear Energy

I happen to be one who believes that we will not get very far in working out a peace program, or in lowering the suspicious fingers which are now being pointed toward America by other nations of the world, until we recognize that, after all, the secret of atomic energy does not belong to America, but that, instead, it belongs to all mankind.

Senator Wayne Morse, remarks in the Senate, October 22, 1945, Congressional Record, vol. 91, p. 9893.

Nuclear Energy

Our children will enjoy in their homes electrical energy too cheap to meter.

Lewis L. Strauss, chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, speech at the 20th anniversary of the National Association of Science Writers, New York City, September 16, 1954, as reported by The New York Times, September 17, 1954, p. 5. The Times said he "predicted . ,; . that industry would have electrical power from atomic furnaces in five to fifteen years.For controversy over whether this implied nuclear power or fusion power, Atomic Industrial Forum, Inc., issued a four-page Special Report, May 1980.

Nuclear War

But this very triumph of scientific annihilation—this very success of invention—has destroyed the possibility of war's being a medium for the practical settlement of international differences. The enormous destruction to both sides of closely matched opponents makes it impossible for even the winner to translate it into anything but his own disaster.

Global war has become a Frankenstein to destroy both sides. No longer is it a weapon of adventure—the shortcut to international power. If you lose, you are annihilated. If you win, you stand only to lose. No longer does it possess even the chance of the winner of a dual. It contains now only the germs of double suicide.

General Douglas Macarthur, speech to a joint session of the Congress of the Republic of the Philippines, July 5, 1961.—Representative Speeches of General of the Amiy Douglas MacArthur p. 98 (1964). Senate Doc. 88-95.

Nuclear War

If we have to start over again with another Adam and Eve, then I want them to be Americans and not Russians, and I want them on this continent and not in Europe.

Senator Richard Russell, remarks in the Senate during debate on the antiballistic missile, October 2, 1968, Congressional Record, vol. 114, p. 29175.

Nuclear War

The living will envy the dead.

Attributed to Nikita S. Khrushchev, speaking of nuclear war.Ed Zuckerman, "Hiding from the Bomb—Again," Harper's, August 1979, p. 36, attributes "the survivors would envy the dead" to Khrushchev This issue of Harper's was stamped in the Library of Congress on July 12, 1979. Senator Frank Church, chairman of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, also attributed this same quotation to Khrushchev in hearings held July 11, 1979, and repeated the quotation in later hearings held July 16, 1979.—The Salt II Treaty, hearings before the Committee on Foreign Relations, United States Senate, 96th Congress, 1st session, part 1, p. 333, and part 2, p. 27 (1979).

An Associated Press news release, dated August 4, 1979, summarized these meetings: "In a month of hearings on the Salt II treaty, many senators have…quoted and requoted the late Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev, who once said that after a nuclear exchange, 'the living would envy the dead.'" The quotation has been widely used in the press since then, including The Washington Post, March 20, 1981, p. A23. No form of this quotation has been verified in the speeches or writings of Khrushchev.

Oath of Office

I, AB, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter. So help me God.

Oath of Office.—United States Code, 1982 ed., vol. 1, title 5, section 3331, p. 538 (1983).This oath is taken by any individual, except the president, "elected or appointed to an office of honor or profit in the civil service or uniformed services."

Oath of Office

Is the chair empty? is the sword unsway'd?

Is the king dead? the empire unposess'd?

William Shakespeare

King Richard III, IV, iv, 470

Oath of Office

O sacred head, now wounded,

With grief and shame bowed down;

Now scornfully surrounded

With thorns, thy only crown.

Paul Gerhardt

Passion Chorale, based on twelfth-century Latin hymn, 1

Oaths

He that imposes an oath makes it,

Not he that for convenience takes it;

Then how can any man be said

To break an oath he never made?

Samuel Butler

Hudibras, II, II, 377

Obedience

Learn to obey before you command.

Solon

Obedience

Let thy child's first lesson be obedience, and the second will be that thou wilt.

Benjamin Franklin

Obedience

Obedience alone gives the right to command.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Obedience

Obedience is a word and concept from which the valiant look for their deliverance.

Author Unknown

Obedience

To follow the will of Heaven is to prosper; to rebel against the will of Heaven is to be destroyed.

Mencius

Observation

I have a friend who's a weather forecaster. He bases his forecasts on reports cabled him by experts in all parts of the world. And he's a rotten forecaster—because he never looks out the window.

Dr. Harvey Cushing

Observation

Let us not speak of them; but look, and pass on.

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy. Inferno, canto III, 51

Observation

Look beneath the surface; let not the several quality of a thing nor its worth escape thee.

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

Meditations, VI, 3

Observation

There is not a time that you walk through the street, when if you employed your senses, you would not learn something worthwhile.

Henry Ward Beecher

Obsolescence

You can't expect to meet the challenges of today with yesterday's tools and expect to be in business tomorrow.

Author Unknown

Obstacles

An obstacle is something you see when you take your eyes off the goals you are trying to reach.

Author Unknown

Odium Literatim

Cicero's style bores me. When I have spent an hour reading him…and try to recollect what I have extracted, I usually find it nothing but wind.

Michel de Montaigne

Odium Literatim

He has occasional flashes of silence that made his conversation perfectly delightful.

Sydney Smith

of Macaulay

Odium Literatim

He wasn't exactly hostile to facts, but he was apathetic about them.

Wolcott Gibbs

of Alexander Woollcott

Odium Literatim

His imagination resembles the wings of an ostrich.

Thomas Babington Macaulay

of Dryden

Odium Literatim

His more ambitious works may be defined as careless thinking carefully versified.

James Russell Lowell

of Alexander Pope

Odium Literatim

If its length be not considered a merit, it hath no other.

Edmund Waller

of Paradise Lost

Odium Literatim

Mr. Henry James writes fiction as if it were a painful duty.

Oscar Wilde

Odium Literatim

Poor Matt, he's gone to Heaven, no doubt—but he won't like God.

Robert Louis Stevenson

of Matthew Arnold

Odium Literatim

Tennyson is a beautiful half of a poet.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Odium Literatim

The gods bestowed on Max the gift of perpetual old age.

Oscar Wilde

of Max Beerbohm

Odium Literatim

The perfection of rottenness.

William James

of a book by Santayana

Odium Literatim

Uhland's poetry is like the famous war horse, Bayard; it possesses all possible virtues and only one fault: it is dead.

Heinrich Heine

Old Age

Advice in old age is foolish; for what can be more absurd than to increase our provisions for the road the nearer we approach to our journey's end.

Cicero

Old Age

Age is not all decay; it is the ripening, the swelling, of the fresh life within, that withers and bursts the husk.

G. MacDonald

Old Age

Forty is the old age of youth, fifty is the youth of old age.

Victor Hugo

Old Age

How can the moribund old man reason back to himself the romance, the mystery, the imminence of great things with which our old earth tingled for him in the days when he was young and well?

William James

Old Age

I am an old man and have known a great many troubles, but most of them have never happened.

Mark Twain

Old Age

I am in the prime of senility.

Joel Chandler Harris

Old Age

I've never known a person to live to be one hundred and be remarkable for anything else.

Josh Billings

Old Age

If God had to give a woman wrinkles, He might at least have put them on the soles of her feet.

Ninon de Lenclos

Old Age

Life is a country that the old have seen, and lived in. Those who have to travel through it can only learn from them.

Joseph Joubert

Old Age

Methuselah lived to be 969 years old….You boys and girls will see more in the next fifty years than Methuselah saw in his whole lifetime.

Mark Twain

Old Age

Old age isn't so bad when you consider the alternative.

Maurice Chevalier

Old Age

Old age: the crown of life, our play's last act.

Cicero

Old Age

Old age: the crown of life, our play's last act.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

De Senectute XXIII

Old Age

Old men are fond of giving good advice to console themselves for their inability to give bad examples.

Francois Rochefoucauld

Old Age

To know how to grow old is the master work of wisdom, and one of the most difficult chapters in the great art of living.

Henri Frederic Amiel

Old Age

When your friends begin to flatter you on how young you look, it's a sure sign you're getting old.

Mark Twain

Old Age

Whenever a man's friends begin to compliment him about looking young, he may be sure they think he is growing old.

Washington Irving

Old Age

Whoever saw old age that did not applaud the past and condemn the present?

Michel de Montaigne

Old Age

Young men want to be faithful and are not; old men want to be faithless and cannot.

Oscar Wilde

Old Age

Youth is a blunder; manhood a struggle; old age a regret.

Benjamin Disraeli

Open-mindedness

The mind like a parachute functions only when open.

Author Unknown

Opinions

But the weight of opinion is against me when I exhort you never to debase the moral currency or to lower the standard of rectitude, but to try others by the final maxim that governs your own lives, and to suffer no man and no cause to escape the undying penalty which history has the power to inflict on wrong.

Lord Acton (John E. E. Dalberg)

Inaugural lecture on the Study of History. Cambridge, June 11, 1895.

Opinions

Error of opinion may be tolerated where reason is left free to combat it.

Thomas Jefferson

Opinions

Every new opinion, at its starting, is precisely in a minority of one.

Thomas Carlyle

Opinions

He who works for sweetness and light united, works to make reason and the will of God prevail.

Matthew Arnold

Essays on Criticism, 2nd series; Thomas Gray.

Opinions

If all mankind minus one were of one opinion, and only one person were of the contrary opinion, mankind would be no more justified in silencing that one person than he, if he had the power, would be justified in silencing mankind.

John Stuart Mill

Opinions

It requires ages to destroy a popular opinion.

Voltaire

Opinions

Make men wise, and by that very operation you make them free. Civil liberty follows as a consequence of this; no usurped power can stand against the artillery of opinion.

William Godwin (1756-1836)

An Inquiry Concerning Political Justice

and Its Influence on General Virtue and Happiness (1793)

Opinions

Most men are so completely corrupted by opinion that they would rather be notorious for the greatest calamities that suffer no ill and be unknown.

Dio Chrysostom

Tenth Discourse, On Servants, ch. 6

Opinions

No one can have a higher opinion of him than I have—and I think he is a dirty little beast.

W. S. Gilbert

Opinions

No opinion, however absurd and incredible, can be imagined, which has not been maintained by some one of the philosophers.

René Descartes (1596-1650)

A Discourse on Method (1637), Part II

Opinions

Not one of them who took up in his youth with this opinion that there are no gods ever continued until old age faithful to his conviction.

Plato

Laws, 888

Opinions

Popular opinion is the greatest lie in the world.

Thomas Carlyle

Opinions

Printers are educated in the belief, that when men differ in opinion, both sides ought equally to have the advantage of being heard by the public; and that when the truth and error have fair play, the former is always an overmatch for the latter.

Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790)

Apology For Printers (1731)

Opinions

Public opinion in this country is everything.

Abraham Lincoln

Opinions

Public opinion is a compound of folly, weakness, prejudice, wrong feeling, right feeling, obstinacy, and newspaper paragraphs.

Sir Robert Peel

Opinions

Soundness of understanding is connected with freedom of enquiry; consequently, opinion should, as far as public security will admit, be exempted from restraint.

William Godwin (1756-1836)

An Inquiry Concerning Political Justice

and Its Influence on General Virtue and Happiness (1793),

p. xxvii

Opinions

The consensus of opinion among all nations, on whatever matter, may be taken for the law of nature.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

Tusculanae disputationes.

Opinions

The man who never alters his opinion is like standing water, and breeds reptiles of the mind.

William Blake

The Marriage of Heaven and Hell.

Opinions

The oppression of any people for opinion's sake has rarely had any other effect than to fix those opinions deeper, and render them more important.

Hosea Ballou

Opinions

The world is governed by opinion.

Thomas Hobbes

Opinions

To be turned form one's course by men's opinions, by blame, and by misrepresentation shows a man unfit to hold an office.

Fabius Maximus

From Plutarch, Lives, Fabius Maximus, 5

Opinions

We are all of us, more or less, the slaves of opinion.

William Hazlitt

Opinions

What plays the mischief with the truth is that men will insist upon the universal application of a temporary feeling or opinion.

Herman Melville

Opinions

You will be safest in the middle.

Ovid [Publius Ovidius Naso]

Metamorphoses, II, 137

Opinions

A great many people think they are thinking when they are merely rearranging their prejudices.

Attributed to William James.—Clifton Fadiman, American Treasury, 1455-1955, p. 719 (1955). Unverified.A similar thought was expressed by Josh Billings (Henry Wheeler Shaw): "Education is a good thing generally, but most folks educate their prejudices."—Everybody's Friend, or Josh Billing's [sic] Encyclopedia and Proverbial Philosophy of Wit and Humor p. 592 (1874). Spelling corrected.

Opinions

A man's opinions are generally of more value than his arguments.

Oliver Wendell Holmes

Opinions

After the war, and until the day of his death, his position on almost every public question was either mischievous or ridiculous, and usually both.

Theodore Roosevelt, Thomas Hart Benton (vol. 7 of The Works of Theodore Roosevelt, national ed.), chapter 8, p. 104 (1926).He was referring to Wendell Phillips, well-known nineteenth century Abolitionist.

Opinions

Any man more right than his neighbors constitutes a majority of one.

Henry David Thoreau

Opinions

Every man has a right to his opinion, but no man has a right to be wrong in his facts.

Attributed to Bernard M. Baruch.—Distilled Wisdom, ed. Alfred A. Montapert, p. 145 (1964). Unverified.Baruch placed such great importance on getting the facts, "free from tips, inside dope or wishful thinking,' that President Wilson took to calling him "Dr. Facts. "—Bamch, vol. 1 (My Own Story), p. 131 (1957).

Opinions

For the great enemy of the truth is very often not the lie—deliberate, contrived, and dishonest—but the myth—persistent, persuasive, and unrealistic. Too often we hold fast to the cliches of our forebears. We subject all facts to a prefabricated set of interpretations. We enjoy the comfort of opinions without the discomfort of thought.

President John F. Kennedy, commencement address at Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut, June 11, 1962.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: John F Kennedy, 1962, p. 234.

Opinions

I have got you together to hear what I have written down. I do not wish your advice about the main matter—for that I have determined for myself.

Attributed to President Abraham Lincoln.—Salmon P. Chase, diary entry for September 22, 1862, Diary and Correspondence of Salmon P Chase, p. 88 (1903, reprinted 1971).According to the Chase account, Lincoln spoke these words at a cabinet meeting he had called to inform the members of his decision to issue the Emancipation Proclamation. This quotation is also used in Carl Sandburg, Abraham Lincoln: The War Years, p. 584 (1939).

Although these words are not used, the same thought is conveyed in the diary of another member of Lincoln's cabinet, Gideon Welles. See his diary entry for the same date in Diary of Gideon Welles, vol. 1, pp. 142-43 (1911).

Opinions

If fifty million people say a foolish thing, it is still a foolish thing.

Anatole France

Opinions

If there be any among us who would wish to dissolve this Union or to change its republican form, let them stand undisturbed as monuments of the safety with which error of opinion may be tolerated where reason is left free to combat it.

President Thomas Jefferson, inaugural address, March 4, 1801.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Andrew A. Lipscomb, vol. 3, p. 319 (1904).

Opinions

If you would inform, a positive and dogmatic manner in advancing your sentiments may provoke contradiction and prevent a candid attention. If you wish information and improvement from the knowledge of others, and yet at the same time express yourself as firmly fixed in your present opinions, modest, sensible men, who do not love disputation, will probably leave you undisturbed in the possession of your error.

Benjamin Franklin

Opinions

It were not best that we should all think alike; it is difference of opinion that makes horse-races.

Mark Twain

Opinions

Predominant opinions are generally the opinions of the generation that is vanishing.

Attributed to Benjamin Disraeli.—Maturin M. Ballou, Treasury of Thought, p. 370 (1899). Unverified.

Opinions

Private opinion is weak, but public opinion is almost omnipotent.

Henry Ward Beecher

Opinions

Public opinion is a people's invincible armor.

Ludwig Boerne

Die Freiheit der Presse, in Baiern, 1818.

Opinions

So long as there are earnest believers in the world, they will always wish to punish opinions, even if their judgment tells them it is unwise and their conscience that it is wrong.

George F. Baer

Literary Studies.

Opinions

So many men, so many opinions; every one his own way.

Terence [Publius Terentius Afer]

Phormio, 454

Opinions

The foolish and the dead alone never change their opinions.

James Russell Lowell

Opinions

The matter does not appear to me now as it appears to have appeared to me then.

Baron George W. W. Bramwell, justice on the Court of the Exchequer, Andrews v. Styrap, 26 L.T. 706 (1872).—Eugene C. Gerhart, Quote It!, p. 558 (1969). Unverified.

Opinions

The Opinions that are held with passion are always those for which no good ground exists; indeed the passion is the measure of the holder's lack of rational conviction. Opinions in politics and religion are almost always held passionately.

Bertrand Russell, Sceptical Essays, Introduction, p. 10 (1961).

Opinions

The public buys its opinions as it buys its meat, or takes in its milk: on the principle that it is cheaper to do this than to keep a cow. So it is, but the milk is more likely to be watered.

Samuel Butler

Note-Books.

Opinions

There are as many opinions as there are experts.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt, radio appeal on the scrap rubber campaign, June 12, 1942.—The Public Papers and Addresses of Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1942, p. 272 (1950). The speech was reprinted in the Congressional Record, June 15, 1942, vol. 88, Appendix, p. A2228.

Opinions

There is probably an element of malice in the readiness to overestimate people; we are laying up for ourselves the pleasure of later cutting them down to size.

Eric Hoffer, "Thoughts of Eric Hoffer, Including 'Absolute Faith Corrupts Absolutely"" The New York Times Magazine, April 25, 1971, pp. 60, 62.

Opinions

There is the grand truth about Nathaniel Hawthorne. He says NO! in thunder; but the Devil himself cannot make him say yes. For all men who say yes, lie; and all men who say no,—why, they are in the happy condition of judicious, unincumbered travellers in Europe; they cross the frontiers into Eternity with nothing but a carpet-bag,—that is to say, the Ego. Whereas those yes-gentry, they travel with heaps of baggage, and, d—- them! they will never get through the Custom House.

Herman Melville, letter to Nathaniel Hawthorne, April 16, 1851.—Melville, MobyDick: An Authoritative Text, Reviews and Letters…, ed. Harrison Hayford and Hershel Parker, p. 555 (1967).

Opinions

This imputation of inconsistency is one to which every sound politician and every honest thinker must sooner or later subject himself. The foolish and

the dead alone never change their opinion.

James Russell Lowell, My Study Windows, chapter on Abraham Lincoln, p. 166 (1899).

Opinions

We cannot ask a man what he will do, and if we should, and he should answer us, we should despise him for it. Therefore we must take a man whose opinions are known.

President Abraham Lincoln, in conversation with George Sewall Boutwell concerning the nomination of Salmon P Chase to the U.S. Supreme Court, reported by Boutwell in his Reminiscences of Sixty Years in Public Affairs, vol. 2, p. 29 (1902).

Opinions

What a man thinks of himself, that is which determines, or rather indicates, his fate.

Henry David Thoreau

Opinions

When I advanced anything that may possible be disputed, the words certainly, undoubtedly, or any others that give the air of positiveness to an opinion, but rather say, I conceive or apprehend a thing to be so, it appears to me, or I should think it so or so, for such and such reasons; or I imagine it to be so; or it is so if I am not mistaken.

Benjamin Franklin

Opinions

You are young, my son, and, as the years go by, time will change and even reverse many of your present opinions. Refrain therefore awhile from setting yourself up as a judge of the highest matters.

Plato

Laws, 888

Opinions

You may talk of the tyranny of Nero and Tiberius, but the real tyranny is the tyranny of your next door neighbor. What espionage of despotism comes to your door so effectively as the eye of the man who lives at your door? Public opinion is a permeating influence. It requires us to think other men's thoughts, to speak other men's words, to follow other men's habits.

George F. Baer

The English Constitution.

Opium For Underachievers

Are you not ashamed of heaping up the greatest amount of money and honour and reputation, and caring so little about wisdom and truth and the greatest improvement of the soul?

Socrates

Opium For Underachievers

…the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong…but time and chance happeneth to them all.

The Bible (Ecclesiastes 9:11)

Opium For Underachievers

My belief is that to have no wants is divine.

Socrates

Opium For Underachievers

The true perfection of man lies not in what man has, but in what man is.

Oscar Wilde

Opium For Underachievers

Why should we be in such desperate haste to succeed, and in such desperate enterprises? If a man does not keep pace with his companions, perhaps it is because he hears a different drummer.

Henry David Thoreau

Opportunity

When one door closes, fortune will usually open another.

Fernando de Rojas

Opportunity

OPPORTUNITY

Master of human destinies am I.

Fame, love, and fortune on my footsteps wait.

Cities and fields I walk; I penetrate

Deserts and seas remote, and, passing by

Hovel and mart, and palace, soon or late

I knock unbidden once at every gate!

If sleeping, wake—if feasting, rise before

I turn away. It is the hour of fate,

And they who follow me reach every state

Mortals desire, and conquer every foe

Save death; but those who doubt or hesitate

Condemned to failure, penury and woe,

See me in vain and uselessly implore—

I answer not, and return no more.

Author Unknown

Opportunity

A man in earnest finds means, or, if he cannot find, creates them.

William Ellery Channing

Opportunity

A ship in harbor is safe, but that is not what ships are built for.

John A. Shedd

Opportunity

A sign on the door of Opportunity reads "Push."

Author Unknown

Opportunity

All the days seem alike as they come to us, but each day comes with its own opportunities, its own calls to duty, its own privileges—holding out hands offering us radiant gifts. The day passes and never comes again. Other days as bright may come, but that day never comes a second time. If we do not take just then the gifts it offers, we shall never have another chance to get them, and shall always be poorer for what we have missed.

J. R. Miller

Opportunity

America is only another name for opportunity.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Opportunity

Do you see difficulties in every opportunity or opportunities in every difficulty?

Author Unknown

Opportunity

Education has opened many, many doors. However, there are still innumerable doors shut tight—unopened yet. These are the doors of the future. Perhaps one of my children will open one of these doors—I shall help give him the key.

Author Unknown

Opportunity

Enlarge the opportunity and the person will expand to fill it.

Eli Ginzberg

Opportunity

Even if you are on the right track, you will get run over if you just stand there.

Arthur Godfrey

Opportunity

God supplies us with the opportunity, but He cannot take advantage of it for us.

Author Unknown

Opportunity

I expect to pass through this world but once. Any good work, therefore, any kindness, or any service I can render to any soul of man or animal, let me do it now! Let me not neglect or defer it, for I shall not pass this way again.

Thomas Carlyle

Opportunity

Lack of opportunity is often nothing more than lack of purpose or direction.

Bits and Pieces Aug 1986

Opportunity

Luck is what happens when Preparation meets opportunity.

Author Unknown

Opportunity

Opportunities are never "lost." Someone else will take the ones you miss.

Author Unknown

Opportunity

Opportunities are never lost; they are taken by others.

Author Unknown

Opportunity

Opportunity always looks better going than coming.

Author Unknown

Opportunity

Opportunity is as scarce as oxygen; men fairly breathe it and do not know it.

Doc Sane

Opportunity

OPPORTUNITY

This I beheld, or dreamed it in a dream;

There spread a cloud of dust along a plain;

And underneath the cloud, or in it, raged

A furious battle, and men yelled and swords

Shocked upon swords and shields. A prince's banner

Wavered, then staggered backward, hemmed by foes.

A craven hung along the battle's edge,

And thought, "Had I a sword of keener steel—

That blue blade that the king's son bears—but this

Blunt thing!" He snapped and flung it from his hand,

And lowering crept away and left the field.

Then came the king's son, wounded, sore bestead,

And weaponless, and saw the broken sword,

Hilt-buried in the dry and trodden sand,

And ran and snatched it, and with battle shout

Lifted afresh, he hewed his enemy down,

And saved a great cause that heroic day.

Edward Rowland Sill

Opportunity

The best angle from which to approach a problem is the Try-angle.

Author Unknown

Opportunity

The door of opportunity is wide open if you are prepared.

Author Unknown

Opportunity

The Trouble with OPPORTUNITY is that It Always Comes Disguised As HARD WORK!

Author Unknown

Opportunity

The wise man will make more opportunities than he finds.

Sir Francis Bacon

Opportunity

There is a tide in the affairs of men, which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune; omitted, all the voyage of their life is bound in shallows and in miseries.

William Shakespeare

Opportunity

There never was a day that did not bring its own opportunity for doing good, that never could have been done before, and never can be again.

W. H. Burleigh

Opportunity

They who know how to employ opportunities will often find that they can create them; and what we can achieve depends less on the amount of time we possess than on the use we make of our time.

John Stuart Mill

Opportunity

To be thrown upon one's own resources is to be cast into the lap of fortune.

Benjamin Franklin

Opportunity

To look is one thing, to see what you look at is another, to understand what you see is a third, to learn from what you understand is still something else, but to act on what you learn is all that really matters! How do I act?

Author Unknown

Opportunity

To recognize an opportunity and use it is the difference between success and failure.

Author Unknown

Opportunity

Too many people miss the silver lining because they're expecting gold.

Maurice Seitter

Opportunity

When one door closes another door opens. But, we so often look so long…and so regretfully upon the closed door that we do not see the ones which open for us.

Alexander Graham Bell

Opposition

Every sweet has its sour; every evil its good.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Opposition

Medicine, to produce health, has to examine disease; and music, to create harmony, must investigate discord.

Plutarch

Lives, Demetrius, sec. 1

Opposition

The Olympian is a difficult foe to oppose.

Homer

The Iliad, I, 589

Oppression

He who allows oppression shares the crime.

Erasmus Darwin

Oppression

Oppress'd with two weak evils, age and hunger.

William Shakespeare

As You Like It, II, vii, 132

Optimism

It is worth a thousand pounds a year to have the habit of looking on the bright side of things.

Samuel Johnson

Optimism/Pessimism

Optimism is a kind of heart stimulant—the digitalis of failure.

Elbert Hubbard

Optimism/Pessimism

Pessimist: One who, when he has the choice of two evils, chooses both.

Oscar Wilde

Optimism/Pessimism

The basis of optimism is sheer terror.

Oscar Wilde

Oratory

A member of the Cabinet congratulated Wilson on introducing the vogue of short speeches and asked him about the time it took him to prepare his speeches. He said: "It depends. If I am to speak ten minutes, I need a week for preparation; if fifteen minutes, three days; if half an hour, two days; if an hour, I am ready now."

President Woodrow Wilson.—Josephus Daniels, The Wilson Era; Years of War and Aflei; 1917-1923, p. 624 (1946).

Oratory

A mighty thing is eloquence…nothing so much rules the world.

Pope Pius II

Oratory

Also the two-edged tongue of mighty Zeno, who, say what one would, could argue it untrue.

Plutarch, Plutarch's Lives, trans. John Dryden, rev. A. H. Clough, life of Pericles, vol. 1, p. 323 (1859).

Oratory

An orator or author is never successful till he has learned to make his words smaller than his ideas.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Oratory

But so much the more malign and wild does the ground become with bad seed and untilled, as it has the more of good earthly vigor.

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy. Purgatorio, canto XXX, 118

Oratory

Every living sentence which shows a mind at work for itself is to be welcomed. It is not the first use but the tiresome repetition of inadequate catch words which I am observing—phrases which originally were contributions, but which, by their very felicity, delay further analysis for fifty years. That comes from the same source as dislike of novelty-intellectual indolence or weakness—a slackening in the eternal pursuit of the more exact.

Oliver Wendell Holmes, "Law in Science and Science in Law," address before the New York State Bar Association, January 17, 1899.—Collected Legal Papers by Oliver Wendell Holmes, pp. 230-31 (1937).Holmes was an associate justice of the supreme court of Massachusetts.

Oratory

How swiftly passes the glory of the world.

Thomas A. Kempis

Imitation of Christ, I, 3

Oratory

I never failed to convince an audience that the best thing they could do was to go away.

Thomas Love Peacock

Oratory

I should be glad if I could flatter myself that I came as near to the central idea of the occasion in two hours as you did in two minutes.

Edward Everett

to Abraham Lincoln

Oratory

It is amazing how soon one becomes accustomed to the sound of one's voice, when forced to repeat a speech five or six times a day. As election day approaches, the size of the crowds grows; they are more responsive and more interested; and one derives a certain exhilaration from that which, only a few weeks before, was intensely painful. This is one possible explanation of unlimited debate in the Senate.

Senator J. William Fulbright, "The Legislator," lecture delivered at the University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, in 1946.—The Works of the Mind, ed. for the University's Committee on Social Thought by Robert B. Heywood, p. 123 (1947).

Oratory

It is reputed that Mr. Disraeli when he was once asked by a new member whether he advised him to take part often in debate replied:

No, I do not think you ought to do so, because it is much better that the houseshould wonder why you do not speak than why you do.

My advice in this matter is very much the same as that given by Mr. Disraeli; it is much better when a member resumes his seat after he has made a speech for the House to have the feeling that they wish he had gone on longer instead of wondering why he did not stop sooner.

Edward Algernon Fitzroy, remarks in the House of Commons, May 25, 1939, as reported by The Times (London), May 26, 1939, p. 7.—FitzRoy, Speaker of the House of Commons, was quoting the nineteenth century Prime Minister Benjamin Disraeli, Lord Beaconsfield. Quoted in slightly different form in the Congressional Record, June 2, 1939, vol. 84, pp. 6538-39.

Oratory

It was a bit of campaign oratory.

Wendell Willkie, testimony, February 11, 1941.—To Promote the Defense of the United States, hearings before the Committee on Foreign Relations, United States Senate, 77th Congress, 1st session, part 3, p. 905 (1941).

In 1940 Willkie had been the Republican party candidate for president.

Oratory

Middle-aged clubwoman, with a flutter in her voice: "Oh, Mr. Stevenson, your speech was superfluous."

"Thank you, madam. I've been thinking of having it published posthumously." "Oh, won't that be nice. The sooner the better."

Adlai E. Stevenson, U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, favorite anecdote on public Occasions.—Richard J. Walton, The Remnants of Power: The Tragic Last Years of Adlai Stevenson, p. 24 (1968).

Oratory

One woman who managed to corner him, the story runs, said in a treacly gushing voice:

"Doesn't it thrill you, Mr. Churchill, to know that every time you make a speech the hall is packed to overflowing?"

"It is quite flattering,' Mr. Churchill replied, "but whenever I feel this way I always remember that if instead of making a political speech I was being hanged, the crowd would be twice as big."

Winston Churchill, remark on a transatlantic tour.—Norman McGowan, My Years with Churchill, p. 138 (1958).

Oratory

Orators are most vehement when they have the weakest cause, as men get on horseback when they cannot walk.

Cicero

Oratory

Spartans, stoics, heroes, saints and gods use a short and positive speech.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Oratory

The art of reasoning becomes of first importance. In this line antiquity has left us the finest models for imitation;….I should consider the speeches of Livy, Sallust, and Tocitus, as pre-eminent specimens of logic, taste, and that sententious brevity which, using not a word to spare, leaves not a moment for inattention to the hearer. Amplification is the vice of modern oratory.

Thomas Jefferson, letter to David Harding, April 20, 1824.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Andrew A. Lipscomb, vol. 16, p. 30 (1904).

Oratory

The object of oratory is not truth but persuasion.

Thomas Babington Macaulay

Oratory

Then there was a maiden speech, so inaudible, that it was doubted whether, after all, the young orator really did lose his virginity.

Benjamin Disraeli, The Young Duke, chapter 6, p. 19 (1859). First published in 1831.

Oratory

When I see a bird that walks like a duck and swims like a duck and quacks like a duck, I call that bird a duck.

Attributed to Richard Cardinal Cushing.—Everett Dirksen and Herbert V. Prochnow, Quotation Finder p. 55 (1971). Unverifled.

Oratory

When the mariner has been tossed for many days in thick weather, and on an unknown sea, he naturally avails himself of the first pause in the storm, the earliest glance of the sun, to take his latitude, and ascertain how far the elements have driven him from his true course. Let us imitate this prudence, and, before we float farther on the waves of this debate, refer to the point from which we departed, that we may at least be able to conjecture where we now are.

Senator Daniel Webster, second speech on Foote's resolution, delivered in the Senate, January 26, 1830.—The Works of Daniel Webster 10th ed., vol. 3, p. 270 (1857).His opening remarks on the sixth day of debate.

Oratory

I was very glad that Mr. Attlee described my speeches in the war as expressing the will not only of Parliament but of the whole nation. Their will was resolute and remorseless and, as it proved, unconquerable. It fell to me to express it, and if I found the right words you must remember that I have always earned my living by my pen and by my tongue. It was a nation and race dwelling all round the globe that had the lion heart. I had the luck to be called upon to give the roar.

Winston Churchill, address marking his 80th birthday, Westminster Hall, London, November 30, 1954.—Winston S. Churchill: His Complete Speeches, 1897-1963, ed. Robert Rhodes James, vol. 8, pp. 8608-9 (1974).

Order

He who has no taste for order, will be often wrong in his judgment, and seldom considerate or conscientious in his actions.

Lavater

Order

If there is righteousness in the heart there will be beauty in the character.

If there is beauty in the character there will be harmony in the home.

If there is harmony in the home there will be order in the nation.

If there is order in the nation there will be peace in the world.

Old Chinese Proverb

Order

If you delay till tomorrow what ought to be done today, you overcharge the morrow with a burden which belongs not to it. You load the wheels of time, and prevent it from carrying you along smoothly. He who every morning plans the transactions of the day, and follows out the plan, carries on a thread which will guide him through the labyrinth of the most busy life. The orderly arrangement of his time is like a ray of light which darts itself through all his affairs. But where no plan is laid, where the disposal of time is surrendered merely to the chance of incidents, all things lie huddled together in one chaos, which admits neither of distribution nor review.

Hugh Blair, "On the Importance of Order in Conduct," Serinris, vol. 1, no. 16, p. 195 (1822).Early time management advice.

Order

Set all things in their proper place, and know that order is the greatest grace.

William Dryden

Order

What comfort, what strength, what economy there is in order—material order, intellectual order, moral order! To know where one is going and what one wishes—this is order; to keep one's word and one's engagement—again order; to have everything ready under one's hand, to be able to dispose of all one's forces, and to have all one's means under command—still order; to discipline one's habits, one's efforts, one's wishes; to organize one's life, to distribute one's time, to take the measure of one's duties and make one's rights respected; to employ one's capital and resources, one's talent and one's chances profitably—all this belongs to, and is included in, the word order. Order means light and peace, inward liberty, and free command over one's self; order is power….Order is man's greatest need and his true well-being.

Henri Amiel

Order

Oh, order! Material order, intellectual order, moral order! What a comfort and strength, and what an economy! To know where we are going and what we want; that is order. To keep one's word, to do the right thing, and at the right time: more order. To have everything under one's hand, to put one's whole army through its manoeuvres, to work with all one's resources: still order. To discipline one's habits and efforts and wishes, to organize one's life and distribute one's time, to measure ones duties and assert one's rights, to put one's capital and resources, one's talents and opportunities to profit: again and always order. Order is light, peace, inner freedom, self-determination: it is power. To conceive order, to return to order, to realize order in oneself, around oneself, by means of oneself, this is aesthetic and moral beauty, it is well-being, it is what ought to be.

Henri Frederic Amiel, journal entry, January 27, 1860.—The Private Joumal of Henri Frederic Amiel, trans. Van Wyck Brooks and Charles Van Wyck Brooks, enl. and rev. ed., pp. 131-32 (1935).

Organization

A place for everything and everything in its place.

Author Unknown

Organization

For every minute spent in organizing, an hour is earned.

Author Unknown

Originality

About the most originality that any writer can hope to achieve honestly is to steal with good judgment.

Josh Billings

Originality

All good things which exist are the fruits of originality.

John Stuart Mill

Originality

Books serve to show a man that those original thoughts of his aren't very new after all.

Abraham Lincoln

Originality

Every human being is intended to have a character of his own; to be what no others are, and to do what no other can do.

William Ellery Channing

Originality

Every thought is new when an author expresses it in a manner peculiar to himself.

Marquis de Vauvenargues

Originality

Everything has been thought of before, but the problem is to think of it again.

Johann W. von Goethe

Originality

For I fear I have nothing original in me—Excepting Original Sin.

Thomas Campbell

Originality

In fact, nothing is said that has not been said before.

Terence [Publius Terentius Afer]

Eunuchus, l. 41 (Prologue)

Originality

The merit of originality is not novelty; it is sincerity. The believing man is the original man; whatsoever he believes, he believes it for himself, not for another.

Thomas Carlyle

Originality

The more intellectual people are, the more originality they see in other men. To commonplace people all men are much alike.

Blaise Pascal

Originality

There is nothing new under the sun.

The Bible (Ecclesiastes 1:9)

Oversleeping

Oversleeping will never make one's dreams come true.

Author Unknown

Pain

Pain nourishes courage. You can't be brave if you've only had wonderful things happen to you.

Mary Tyler Moore

Painting

A good painter is to paint two main things, namely men and the working of man's mind.

Leonardo da Vinci

Painting

A youth who likes to study will in the end succeed. To begin with he should know that there are Six Essentials in painting. The first is called spirit; the second, rhythm; the third, thought; the fourth, scenery; the fifth, the brush, and last is the ink.

Ching Hao

Notes on Brushwork

Painting

For deeds do die, however nobly done,

And thoughts of men do as themselves decay,

But wise words taught in numbers for to run,

Recorded by the Muses, live for ay.

Edmund Spenser

The Ruines of Time, l. 400

Painting

I do not paint a portrait to look like the subject, rather does the person grow to look like his portrait.

Salvador Dali

Painting

I hope with all my heart there will be painting in heaven.

Jean-Baptiste-Cammille Corot

Painting

If [the artist] sees nothing within him, then he should also refrain from painting what he sees before him.

Caspar David Friedrich

Painting

Of all kinds of painting, figure painting is the most difficult; then comes landscape painting, and next dogs and horses. High towers and pavilions are definite things; they are difficult to execute, but easy to handle since they do not demand insight.

Ku K'ai-Chih

Discussion of Painting

Painting

Painting is silent poetry, and poetry painting that speaks.

Simonides

From Plutarch, De Gloria Atheniensium III, 346

Painting

Paintings are the Bible of the laity.

Gratian

Decretum, pt. III

Painting

The painters of today mix their brushes and ink with dust and dirt, and their colors with mud, and in vain smear the silk. How can this be called painting?

Chang Yen-Yuan

Discussion of the Six Principles of Painting

Painting

[Concerning the Six Principles of painting]

The first is, that through a vitalizing spirit, a painting should possess the movement of life.

The second is, that by means of the brush, the structural basis should be established.

The third is, that the representation should so conform with the objects as to give their likenesses.

The fourth is, that the coloring should be applied according to their characteristics.

The fifth is, that through organization, place and position should be determined.

The sixth is, that by copying the ancient models should be perpetuated.

Hsieh Ho

Notes Concerning the Classification of Old Paintings

Panic

Panics, in some cases, have their uses; they produce as much good as hurt. Their duration is always short; the mind soon grows through them and acquires a firmer habit than before.

Thomas Paine

Paradox

If a person shows that such things as wood, stones, and the like, being many are also one, we admit that he shows the coexistence of the one and many, but he does not show that the many are one or the one many; he is uttering not a paradox but a truism.

Plato

Dialogues, Permenides, 129

Paradox

The truest sayings are paradoxical.

Lao Tse

Parallels

Among the calamities of war may be justly numbered the diminution of the love of truth.

Samuel Johnson

Parallels

Every saint has a past and every sinner has a future.

Oscar Wilde

Parallels

I never read a book before reviewing it. It prejudices me so.

Sydney Smith

Parallels

In the world there are only two tragedies. One is not getting what one wants and the other is getting it.

Oscar Wilde

Parallels

My God, My God, why hast thou forsaken me?

The Bible (Psalm 22)

Parallels

Reading is sometimes an ingenious device for drugging thought.

Sir Arthur Helps

Parallels

You've no idea what a poor opinion I have of myself—and how little I deserve it.

W. S. Gilbert

Parapsychology/Precognition/Esp

Carriages without horses shall go,

And accidents fill the world with woe

Around the world thoughts shall fly

In the twinkling of an eye.

Mother Shipton

Parapsychology/Precognition/Esp

Heaven from all creatures hides the book of Fate.

Alexander Pope

Parapsychology/Precognition/Esp

I wonder that a soothsayer doesn't laugh whenever he sees another soothsayer.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

Parapsychology/Precognition/Esp

Matrons, who toss the cup, and see

The grounds of fate in the grounds of tea.

Charles Churchill

Parapsychology/Precognition/Esp

My gran'ther's rule was safer'n 'tis to crow:

Don't never prophesy onless ye know.

James Russell Lowell

Parapsychology/Precognition/Esp

The best of seers is he who guesses well.

Euripides

Parapsychology/Precognition/Esp

You can make a better living in the world as a soothsayer than as a truthsayer.

G. C. Lichtenberg

Parenthood/Parenting

'Tis a happy thing

To be the father unto many sons.

William Shakespeare

King Henry VI, III, III, ii, 104

Parenthood/Parenting

Parents wonder why the streams are bitter when they themselves have poisoned the fountain.

John Locke

Parenthood/Parenting

The great man is he who does not lose his child's heart.

Mencius

Book IV, 2:12

Parenthood/Parenting

Definition of a good parent or manager is one who says, "You can become whatever it is you seriously want to become; my job is to help you become it."

Harry Levinson

Parenthood/Parenting

To raise a son without learning is raising an ass; to raise a daughter without learning is raising a pig.

Mencius

Parenthood/Parenting

With children…it is a fact that most parents criticize children more than they laud or congratulate them. We tend to be quick to criticize, slow to praise. We should be careful to keep the praise and the expectations far ahead of the criticism.

Author Unknown

Parents

"Reverence for parents" stands written among the three laws of most revered righteousness.

Aeschylus

Parents

Dear Lord, make me a better parent,….Teach me to understand my children, to listen patiently to what they have to say and to answer all their questions kindly. Keep me from interrupting them, talking back to them, and contradicting them. Make me as courteous to them as I would have them to be to me.

Gary Cleveland Myers

Parents

Next to God, thy parents.

William Penn

Parents

The more I get after a boy, the farther I get from him.

C. J. Wendel

Parents

The trouble with parents is that by the time they are experienced, they are unemployed.

Author Unknown

Parents

You can be anything you want to become. My job is to help you become it.

Harry Levinson

Passion

Absence diminishes mediocre passions and increases great ones, as the wind blows out candles and fans fire.

Francois, Duc de la Rochefoucauld

Reflections; or, Sentences and Moral Maxims, 276

Passion

An author who wishes to write without passion, and without prejudice, ought, it is said, to have neither religion nor country; and this is nearly the case with Voltaire.

Frederick (II) The Great (1712-1784)

Posthumous Works

Passion

For one heat, all know, doth drive out another,

One passion doth expel another still.

George Chapman

Monsieur d'Olive, act V, sc. i

Passion

Gold alone does passion move!

God monopolizes love!

A curse on her and on the man

Who this traffic first began.

A curse on him who found the one,

A curse on him who digged the stone.

A curse on him who did refine it.

A curse on him who first did coin it.

A curse, all curses else above,

On him who used it first in love!

Abraham Cowley (1618-1667)

Anacreontiques (1656), No. 7, "Gold"

Passion

How all the other passions fleet to air,

As doubtful thoughts, and rash-embrac'd despair,

And shuddering fear, and green-ey'd jealousy.

William Shakespeare

The Merchant of Venice, III, ii, 108

Passion

How well I remember the aged poet, Sophocles, when in answer to the question, "How does love suit with age—are you still the man you were?" replied, "Peace, most gladly have I escaped the thing of which you speak; I feel as if I had escaped from a mad and furious master!"

Plato

Passion

Intellectual passion drives out sensuality.

Leonardo da Vinci

Notebooks

Passion

It (lust) subverts kingdoms, overthrows cities, towns, families; mars, corrupts and makes a massacre of men; thunder and lightning, wars, fires, plagues, have not done that mischief as this burning lust, this brutish passion.

Robert Burton

The Anatomy of Melancholy.

Passion

O glorious boon of age, if it does indeed free us from youth's most vicious fault.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

Passion

Only the passions, only great passions, can elevate the mind to great things.

Denis Diderot (1713-1784)

Pensées philosophiques (1746), Bk. I

Passion

Our passions are most like to floods and streams,

The shallow murmur, but the deep are dumb.

Sir Walter Raleigh

Sir Walter Ralegh to the Queen, st. 1

Passion

Passion is a sort of fever of the mind, which ever leaves us weaker than it found us.

William Penn

Passion

Passions are vices or virtues in their highest powers.

Johann W. von Goethe

Passion

Serving one's own Passions is the greatest Slavery.

Thomas Fuller (1654-1734)

Gnomologia (1732), No. 4103

Passion

The passion for destruction (is) a creative passion.

Mikhail A. Bakunin

Reaction in Germany, Ruge's Deutsche Yahrbuecher, 1842.

Passion

The principal effect of the passions is that they incite and persuade the mind to will the events for which they prepared the body.

René Descartes (1596-1650)

Les passions de l'âme [The Passions of the Soul] (1644)

Passion

To be crushed in the winepress of passion.

Gabriel Biel

Exposito Canonis Missae, lectio 52

Passion

Unless a woman has an amorous heart, she is a dull companion.

Samuel Johnson

Passion

We are ne'er like angels till our passion dies.

Thomas Dekker (1572-1632)

The Honest Whore (in collaboration with Thomas Middleton, 1604), Pt. 2

Past, Present, Future

But these things are past and gone.

Gaius Valerius Catullus

Carmina, IV, 25

Past, Present, Future

How can we live without our lives? How will we know it's us without our past?

John Steinbeck, The Grapes of Wrath, p. 120 (1939).

Past, Present, Future

Not heaven itself upon the past has power;

But what has been, has been, and I have had my hour.

John Dryden

Imitation of Horace, III, 29, 71

Past, Present, Future

Not lost, but gone before.

Lucius Annaeus Seneca

Epistles, 63, 16

Past, Present, Future

One thing alone not even God can do,

To make undone whatever hath been done.

Aristotle,

The Nicomachean Ethics of Aristotle,

trans. Robert Williams, book 6,

chapter 2, p. 154 (1879).

Aristotle attributed these words to Agathon,

an Athenian tragic poet who lived in the

latter half of the fifth century B.C.

In his column, "Today and Tomorrow," Walter Lippmann attributed

the same idea to George Santayana: "He might meditate on Santayana's

saying that not even God can change the past."

—New York Herald Tribune, June 11, 1951, p. 17. Unverified.

Past, Present, Future

Progress, far from consisting in change, depends on retentiveness…. when experience is not retained, as among savages, infancy is perpetual. Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it…. This is the condition of children and barbarians, in whom instinct has learned nothing from experience.

George Santayana, The Life of Reason, vol. 1, chapter 12, p. 284 (1905).

Past, Present, Future

That tradition has had a powerful influence on the human mind is universally admitted, even by those who are governed by it in the articles of discipline of their faith; for though they are blind with respect to their own superstition, yet they can perceive and despise it in others. Protestants very readily discern and expose the weak side of Popery, and papists are as ready and acute in discovering the errors of heretics.

Ethan Allen

Reason the Only Oracle of Man, first edition, Bennington, Vt.,

1784; Scholars' Facsimiles & Reprints, N.Y.C., 1940. p. 337.

Past, Present, Future

Things that are done, it is needless to speak about…things that are past, it is needless to blame.

Confucius

The Confucius Analects, 3:21, Ii

Past, Present, Future

This only is denied to God: the power to undo the past.

Agathon

From Aristotle, Nicomachean Ethics, VI, 2

Past, Present, Future

He knew the things that were and the things that would be and the things that had been before.

Homer

The Iliad, I, 70

Past, Present, Future

More and more Emerson recedes grandly into history, as the future he predicted becomes a past.

Robert Penn Warren, speech upon receipt of the 1970 National Medal for Literature, New York City, December 2, 1970.—Transcript, p. 2.

Past, Present, Future

Our duty is to preserve what the past has had to say for itself, and to say for ourselves what shall be true for the future.

Attributed to John Ruskin. Unverified.

Past, Present, Future

There must be what Mr. Gladstone many years ago called "a blessed act of oblivion. " We must all turn our backs upon the horrors of the past. We must look to the future. We cannot afford to drag forward across the years that are to come the hatreds and revenges which have sprung from the injuries of the past.

Winston Churchill, speech at Zurich University, Zurich, Switzerland, September 19, 1946.—The Sinews of Peace: Post-War Speeches by Winston S. Churchill, p. 200 (1949).

Past, Present, Future

Like my three brothers before me, I pick up a fallen standard. Sustained by their memory of our priceless years together I shall try to carry forward that special commitment to justice, to excellence, to courage that distinguished their lives.

Senator Edward M. Kennedy, speech, Holy Cross College, Worcester, Massachusetts, August 21, 1968, as reported by The New York Times, August 22, 1968, p. 22.

Past, Present, Future

The dogmas of the quiet past, are inadequate to the stormy present. The occasion is piled high with difficulty, and we must rise with the occasion. As our case is new, so we must think anew and act anew. We must disenthrall ourselves, and then we shall save our country.

President Abraham Lincoln, annual message to Congress, December 1, 1862.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P Basler, vol. 5, p. 537 (1953).

This passage was quoted in the preamble to the 1968 Republican party platform.

Past, Present, Future

The question whether one generation of men has a right to bind another, seems never to have been started either on this or our side of the water…. I set out on this ground, which I suppose to be self evident, "that the earth belongs in usufuct to the living:" that the dead have neither powers nor rights over it.

Thomas Jefferson, letter to James Madison, September 6, 1789.—The Papers of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Julian P Boyd, vol. IS, p. 392 (1958).In an editorial note, Boyd states that "This concept of political relativism was the one great addition to Jefferson's thought that emerged from his years of residence at the center of European intellectual ferment" (p. 384).

Past, Present, Future

There is nothing new under the sun.

Various authors. Some sources give as a first source the Bible,

Ecclesiastes 1:9, "The thing that hath been, it is that which

shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done:

and there is no new thing under the sun."

However, Marcus Aurelius said in his Meditations, "Consider

for example, and thou wilt find that almost all of the transactions

in the time of Vespasian differed little from those of the present day.

Thou there findest marrying and giving in marriage, educating children,

sickness, death, war, joyous holidays, traffic, agriculture, flatterers,

insolent pride, suspicions, laying of plots, longing for the death of others,

newsmongers, lovers, misers, men canvassing for the consulship

and for the kingdom;—yet all these passed away, and are nowhere."

Craufurd Tiit Ramage, Familiar Quotations fom

Greek Authors, p. 47 (1895, reprinted 1968).

For a range of variations of the above quotation,

see The Concise Oxford Dictionary of Proverbs, pp. 164-65 (1982).

Past, Present, Future

And in today already walks tomorrow.

Samuel Taylor Coleridge

Past, Present, Future

…the tender grace of a day that is dead

Will never come back to me.

Alfred Lord Tennyson

Past, Present, Future

God has no power over the past except to cover it with oblivion.

Pliny the Elder

Past, Present, Future

He is blessed over all mortals who loses no moment of the passing life in remembering the past.

Henry David Thoreau

Past, Present, Future

If a man takes no thought about what is distant, he will find sorrow near at hand.

Confucius

Past, Present, Future

If you want the present to be different from the past, study the past.

Baruch Spinoza

Past, Present, Future

Let us not go over the old ground, let us rather prepare for what is to come.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

Past, Present, Future

Nothing can bring back the hour

Of splendour in the grass, of glory in the flower.

William Wordsworth

Past, Present, Future

One generation cannot bind another.

Thomas Jefferson

Past, Present, Future

The future influences the present just as much as the past.

Friedrich Nietzsche

Past, Present, Future

The little present must not be allowed wholly to elbow the great past out of view.

Andrew Lang

Past, Present, Future

The new circumstances under which we are placed call for new words, new phrases, and for the transfer of old words to new objects.

Thomas Jefferson

Past, Present, Future

The past at least is secure.

Daniel Webster

Past, Present, Future

The wrecks of the past were America's warnings.

George Bancroft

Past, Present, Future

You cannot plan the future by the past.

Edmund Burke

Patience

Arm th' obdur'd breast

With stubborn patience as with triple steel.

John Milton

Paradise Lost, II, 568

Patience

All things come round to him who will but wait.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Patience

Anyone can become angry—that is easy; but to be angry with the right person, to the right degree, at the right time, for the right purpose and in the right way—that is not easy.

Aristotle

Patience

Beware the fury of a patient man.

John Dryden

Patience

By delaying he preserved the state.

Quintus Ennius

From Cicero, De Senectute IV

Patience

Every man must patiently bide his time. He must wait—not in listless idleness but in constant, steady, cheerful endeavors, always willing and fulfilling and accomplishing his task, that when the occasion comes he may be equal to the occasion.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Patience

Everyone is bound to bear patiently the results of his own example.

Phaedrus

Fables, I, 26, 12

Patience

Everything in this life takes longer than you think except life itself.

Author Unknown

Patience

Genius is nothing but a greater aptitude for patience.

Georges de Buffon

Patience

Has not God borne with you these many years? Be ye tolerant of others.

Hosea Ballou

Patience

Here will be an old abusing of God's patience and the king's English.

William Shakespeare

The Merry Wives of Windsor, I, iv, 5

Patience

How long, Catiline, will you abuse our patience?

Marcus Tullius Cicero

In Catilinam, I, 1

Patience

How poor are they that have not patience!

What wound did ever heal but by degrees?

William Shakespeare

Othello, II, iii, 379

Patience

Let nothing disturb thee;

Let nothing dismay thee;

All things pass;

God never changes.

Patience attains

All that it strives for;

He who has God

Finds he lacks nothing;

God alone suffices.

Quoted by Longfellow

Patience

Nemo me impune lacessit.

No one provokes me with impunity.

Anonymous Latin

Motto of the Crown of Scotland

Patience

No thing great is created suddenly, anymore than a bunch of grapes or a fig. If you tell me that you desire a fig, I answer you that there must be time. Let it first blossom, then bear fruit, then ripen.

Epictetus

Patience

Not every soil can bear all things.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Georgics, II, 109

Patience

Nothing can be done at once hastily and prudently.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 557

Patience

Patience and Determination will win for most nine battles out of ten. A man without patience is a lamp without oil.

Alfred de Musset

Patience

Patience is a necessary ingredient of genius.

Benjamin Disraeli

Patience

Patience is the best remedy for every trouble.

Plautus

Patience

Patience is the best remedy for every trouble.

Titus Maccius Plautus

Rudens, act II, sc. v, l. 71

Patience

Patience is waiting. Not passively waiting. That is laziness. But to keep going when the going is hard and slow—that is patience.

Author Unknown

Patience

Patience—a minor form of despair disguised as virtue.

Ambrose Bierce

Patience

Possess your soul with patience.

John Dryden

Patience

The fates have given mankind a patient soul.

Homer

The Iliad, XXIV, 49

Patience

There is no road too long for the man who advances deliberately and without undue haste; no honors too distant to the man who prepares himself for them with patience.

Jean de la Bruyere

Patience

Weary the path that does not challenge. Doubt is an incentive to truth and patient inquiry leadeth the way.

Hosea Ballou

Patriotism

Abandon your animosities and make your sons Americans!

Robert E. Lee

Patriotism

America now is stumbling through the darkness of hatred and divisiveness. Our values, our principles, and our determination to succeed as a free and democratic people will give us a torch to light the way. And we will survive and become the stronger—not only because of a patriotism that stands for love of country, but a patriotism that stands for love of people.

Representative Gerald R. Ford, address to the state conference of the Order of DeMolay, Grand Rapids, Michigan, September 7, 1968.—Gerald R. Ford, Selected Speeches, ed. Michael V. Doyle, p. 77 (1973).

Patriotism

As soon as any man says of the affairs of state, What does it matter to me? the state may be given up as lost.

Jean Jacques Rousseau

Patriotism

Be England what she will, with all her faults, she is my country still.

Winston Churchill

Patriotism

Breathes there the man, with soul so dead,

Who never to himself hath said,

This is my own, my native land!

Whose heart hath ne'er within him burn'd,

As home his footsteps he hath turn'd,

From wandering on a foreign strand!

Sir Walter Scott,

The Lay of the Last Minstrel,

ed. Margaret A. Allen, canto sixth,

1, lines 1-6, p. 123 (1915).

Patriotism

Citizens by birth or choice, of a common country, that country has a right to concentrate your affections. The name of AMERICAN, which belongs to you, in your national capacity, must always exalt the just pride of Patriotism, more than any appellation derived from local discriminations.

President George Washington, farewell address, September 19, 1796.—The Writings of George Washington, ed. John C. Fitzpatrick, vol. 35, pp. 219-20 (1940).

Patriotism

Each man makes of himself what he makes of his country.

Reed Markham

Patriotism

Every man loves and admires his own country because it produced him.

Edward Bulwer-Lytton

Patriotism

He loved his country as no other man loved her, but no man deserved less at her hands.

Edward Everett Hale

Patriotism

I am not bound over to swear allegiance to any master; where the storm drives me I turn in for shelter.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Epistles, I, i, 14

Patriotism

I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country.

Nathan Hale

Patriotism

I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country.

Nathan Hale, last words before being hanged by the British as a spy, September 22, 1776. Possibly inspired by Joseph Addison's celebrated tragedy, Cato (act IV, scene iv), in which Cato says, when the body of his son is brought before him: "How beautiful is death when earned by virtue. Who would not be that youth? What pity is it that we can die but once to serve our country!"—George Dudley Seymour, Captain Nathan Hale, Major John Palsgrave Wyllys, A Ligressive History, p. 39 (1933).

Patriotism

I venture to suggest that what we mean is a sense of national responsibility which will enable America to remain master of her power—to walk with it in serenity and wisdom, with self-respect and the respect of all mankind; a patriotism that puts country ahead of self; a patriotism which is not short, frenzied outbursts of emotion, but the tranquil and steady dedication of a lifetime. These are words that are easy to utter, but this is a mighty assignment. For it is often easier to fight for principles than to live up to them.

Adlai E. Stevenson, governor of Illinois, speech to the American Legion convention, New York City, August 27, 1952.—Speeches of Adlai Stevenson, p. 81 (1952).

Patriotism

Intellectually I know America is no better than any other country; emotionally I know she is better than every other country.

Sinclair Lewis, radio interview in Berlin, Germany, December 29, 1930, as reported by The New York Times, December 30, 1930, p. 5.

Patriotism

Let our object be our country, our whole country and nothing but our country.

Daniel Webster

Patriotism

Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable!

Daniel Webster

Patriotism

My country is the world; my countrymen are mankind.

William Lloyd Garrison

Patriotism

National honor is national property of the highest value.

James Monroe

Patriotism

Night coming in like a black, silk cloud, silently folding itself around us.

Doris Christensen

Patriotism

Not a place upon earth might be so happy as America. Her situation is remote from all the wrangling world, and she has nothing to do but to trade with them.

Thomas Paine

Patriotism

O fatherland, O Ilium home of the gods, O Troy walls famed in battle!

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aeneid, II, 241

Patriotism

On behalf of their country, their children, their altars, and their hearths.

Sallust [Gaius Sallustius Crispus]

The War with Catiline, 59

Patriotism

Only those Americans who are willing to die for their country are fit to live.

Douglas MacArthur

Patriotism

Our country! In her intercourse with foreign nations may she always be in the right; but our country, right or wrong.

Stephen Decatur

Patriotism

Our country, right or wrong. When right, to be kept right; when wrong, to be put right.

Carl Schurz

Patriotism

Patriotism is a praiseworthy competition with one's ancestors.

Tacitus

Patriotism

Patriotism is as fierce as a fever, pitiless as the grave, blind as a stone, and irrational as a headless hen.

Ambrose Bierce

Patriotism

Patriotism is not enough. I must have no hatred or bitterness toward anyone.

Edith (Louisa) Cavell

To the Rev. Mr. Gahan, the night before her execution by the Germans in Belgium.

Patriotism

Patriotism is not necessarily included in rebellion. A man may hate his king, yet not love his country.

Dr. Samuel Johnson

Patriotism

Patriotism is the last refuge of a scoundrel.

Samuel Johnson.—James Boswell, Life of Johnson, entry for Friday, April 7, 1775, p. 615 (1970)."In Dr. Johnson's famous dictionary patriotism is defined as the last resort of a scoundrel. With all due respect to an enlightened but inferior lexicographer, I beg to submit that it is the fIrst. "—Ambrose Bierce, The Devil's Dictionary, at entry for patriotism, The Collected Writings of Ambrose Bierce, p. 323 (1946, reprinted 1973).

H. L. Mencken added this to Johnson's dictum: "But there is something even worse: it is the first, last, and middle range of fools."—The World, New York City, November 7, 1926, p. 3E.

Patriotism

The best thing, I suppose,

That one can do for his land

Is a thing that lies under his nose,

With the tools that lie under his hand.

Kipling

Patriotism

That pernicious sentiment, "Our country, right or wrong."

James Russell Lowell

Patriotism

The patriot's blood's the seed of Freedom's tree.

Thomas Campbell

To the Spanish Patriots.

Patriotism

The single best augury is to fight for one's country.

Homer

Patriotism

There is no greater sign of a general decay of virtue in a nation, than a want of zeal in its inhabitants for the good of their country.

Joseph Addison

Freeholder.

Patriotism

This country, with its institutions, belongs to the people who inhabit it….Why should there not be a patient confidence in the ultimate justice of the people? Is there any better or equal hope in the world?

Abraham Lincoln

Patriotism

True patriotism sometimes requires of men to act exactly contrary, at one period, to that which it does at another, and the motive which impels them—the desire to do right—is precisely the same.

Robert E. Lee, letter to General P. G. T. Beauregard, October 3, 1865.—John William Jones, Life and Letters of Robert Edward Lee, Soldicr and Man, p. 390 (1906).

Patriotism

Twilight's Last Gleaming

Moonbeams on the water like fairies spawned from light.

Joseph R. Keen

Patriotism

Twilight's Last Gleaming

A coasting half-moon pumping luminescence into clouds.

Mike Edwards

Patriotism

We would rather starve than sell our national honor.

Indira Gandhi, prime minister of India, remark at election meeting in Nagpur, India, as reported by The New York Times, January 23, 1967, p. 1.India had accepted trade restrictions with North Vietnam and Cuba to get grain from the United States. Prime Minister Gandhi said this did not compromise the country's honor because India had not been trading with North Vietnam, and her trade with Cuba was limited to the selling of jute products, which was not objected to by the United States.

Patriotism

Whenever you hear a man speak of his love for his country it is a sign that he expects to be paid for it.

H. L. Mencken, A Mencken Chrestomathy, chapter 30, p. 616 (1949).

Patriotism

With earnest prayers to all my friends to cherish mutual good will, to promote harmony and conciliation, and above all things to let the love of our country soar above all minor passions, I tender you the assurance of my affectionate esteem and respect.

Thomas Jefferson, letter to John Hollins, May 5, 1811.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Andrew A. Lipscomb, vol. 13, pp. 58-59 (1903).

Patriotism

With malice toward non, with charity for all…let us finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's wounds.

Abraham Lincoln

Patriotism

You can't appreciate home until you've left it, money til it's spent, your wife til she's joined a woman's club, and not Old Glory til you see it hanging from a broomstick on the shanty of a consul in a foreign town.

Author Unknown

Patron

Patron: a wretch who supports with insolence and is paid with flattery.

Dr. Samuel Johnson

Patronage

It may be, sir, that the politicians of the United States are not so fastidious as some gentlemen are, as to disclosing the principles on which they act. They boldly preach what they practise. When they are contending for victory, they avow their intention of enjoying the fruits of it. If they are defeated, they expect to retire from office. If they are successful, they claim, as a matter of right, the advantages of success. They see nothing wrong in the rule, that to the victor belong the spoils of the enemy.

Senator William Learned Marcy, remarks in the Senate, January 25, 1832, Register of Debates in Congress, vol. 8, col. 1325.Marcy was defending Martin Van Buren, nominated as minister to England, against the attacks of Senator Henry Clay.

Patronage

Senator [Stephen] Douglas is of world-wide renown. All the anxious politicians of his party, or who have been of his party for years past, have been looking upon him as certainly, at no distant day, to be the President of the United States. They have seen in his round, jolly, fruitful face, postoffices, landoffices, marshalships, and cabinet appointments, chargeships and foreign missions, bursting and sprouting out in wonderful exuberance ready to be laid hold of by their greedy hands.

Abraham Lincoln, speech at Springfield, Illinois, July 17, 1858.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P. Basler, vol. 2, p. 506 (1953).

Patronage

This is what extremely grieves us, that a man who never fought

Should contrive our fees to pilfer, one who for his native land

Never to this day had oar, or lance, or blister in his hand.

Aristophanes

Wasps, 1117

Peace

'Tis peace of mind, lad, we must find, and have a besdame nigh

To sit for us and spit for us and bid all ill go by.

Theocritus

The Harvest Home, l. 126

Peace

For now I see

Peace to corrupt no less than war to waste.

John Milton

Paradise Lost, XI, 783

Peace

Peace hath her victories

No less renown'd than war.

John Milton

To the Lord General Cromwell

Peace

Rude am I in my speech,

And little bless'd with the soft phrase of peace.

William Shakespeare

Othello, I, iii, 81

Peace

A conquerer is always a lover of peace.

Karl von Clausewitz

On War; copied by Lenin in his notebook, with notation, "Ah! Ah! Witty".

Lenin and Stalin were avowed students of von Clausewitz.

Peace

A god has brought us this peace.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Eclogues, I, 6

Peace

An unjust peace is better than a just war.

Marcus Tullius Cicero (106-43 B.C.)

Epistola ad Atticum

Peace

And in His will is our peace.

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy. Paradiso, canto III, 85

Peace

Arming a country with guns and tanks and airplanes is not enough. If our defense program is to succeed, the entire country must experience a rebirth, for in the end, only righteousness can save a nation.

Roger W. Babson

Peace

At present the peace of the world has been preserved, not by statesmen, but by capitalists.

Benjamin Disraeli, letter to Mrs. Sarah Brydges Willyams, October 17, 1863.—W. F. Monypenny and George E. BucKle, The Life of Benjamin Disraeli, vol. 4, p. 339 (1916).He foresaw the possibility of a European war, "on the pretext of restoring Poland."

The Rothschilds had made large loans to Italy and Russia, and "are naturally very nervous."—Disraeli, letter to Mrs. Brydges Willyams of July 21, 1863. Following the words above, he wrote, "For the last three months it has been a struggle between the secret societies and the European millionaires. Rothschild hitherto has won" (p. 339).

Peace

Blessed are the peacemakers on earth.

William Shakespeare

King Henry VI, II, II, i, 34

Peace

Even peace may be purchased at too high a price.

Benjamin Franklin

Peace

First keep the peace within yourself, then you can also bring peace to others.

Thomas A. Kempis

Imitation of Christ, II, 3

Peace

For peace is not mere absence of war, but is a virtue that springs from force of character.

Benedictus de Spinoza,

"Tractatus Politicus,"

Writings on Political Philosophy,

ed. A. G. A. Balz, trans. R. H. M. Elwes,

p. 110 (1937). Other translations vary.

Peace

For peace, with justice and honor, is the fairest and most profitable of possessions, but with disgrace and shameful cowardice it is the most infamous and harmful of all.

Polybius

Peace

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

The Bible, Luke 2:14.

Peace

He makes a solitude, and calls it peace.

Lord Byron

The Bride of Abydos, ii, 1813.

Peace

I like to believe that people, in the long run, are going to do more to promote peace than our governments. Indeed, I think that people want peace so much that one of these days governments had better get out of the way and let them have it.

President Dwight D. Eisenhower, radio and television broadcast with Prime Minister Harold Macmillan, London, August 31, 1959.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Dwight D. Eisenhower 1959, p. 625.

Peace

If the pursuit of peace is both old and new, it is also both complicated and simple. It is complicated, because it has to do with people, and nothing in this universe baffles man as much as himself.

Adlai Stevenson

Peace

In peace sons bury their fathers, but in war fathers bury their sons.

Croesus (?-546 B.C.), Last king of Lydia

Attributed by Herodotus

Peace

It is not enough just to be for peace. The point is, what can we do about it?

President Richard M. Nixon, on-the-record interview with C. L. Sulzberger, March 8, 1971.—The New York Times, March 10, 1971, p. 14.

Peace

Let him who desires peace prepare for war.

Vegetius [Flavius Vegetius Renatus]

Peace

Once upon a time all the animals in the zoo decided that they would disarm, and they arranged to have a conference to arrange the matter. So the Rhinoceros said when he opened the proceedings that the use of teeth was barbarous and horrible and ought to be strictly prohibited by general consent. Horns, which were mainly defensive weapons, would, of course, have to be allowed. The Buffalo, the Stag, the Porcupine, and even the little Hedgehog all said they would vote with the Rhino, but the Lion and the Tiger took a different view. They defended teeth and even claws, which they described as honourable weapons of immemorial antiquity. The Panther, the Leopard, the Puma, and the whole tribe of small cats all supported the Lion and the Tiger. Then the Bear spoke. He proposed that both teeth and horns should be banned and never used again for fighting by any animal. It would be quite enough if animals were allowed to give each other a good hug when they quarreled. No one could object to that. It was so fraternal, and that would be a great step towards peace. However, all the other animals were very offended with the Bear, and the Turkey fell into a perfect panic.

The discussion got so hot and angry, and all those animals began thinking so much about horns and teeth and hugging when they argued about the peaceful intentions that had brought them together that they began to look at one another in a very nasty way. Luckily the keepers were able to calm them down and persuade them to go back quietly to their cages, and they began to feel quite friendly with one another again.

Winston Churchill, chancellor of the exchequer, speech, Aldersbrook, England, October 24, 1928.—Winston S. Churchill: His Complete Speeches, 1897-1963, ed. Robert Rhodes James, vol. 5, p. 4521 (1974). This is "a disarmament fable."

Peace

Only a peace between equals can last. Only a peace the very principle of which is equality and a common participation in a common benefit.

President Woodrow Wilson, address to the United States Senate on essential terms of peace in Europe, January 22, 1917.—The Messages and Papers of Woodrow Wilson, ed. Albert Shaw, vol. 1, p. 352 (1924).

Peace

Peace above all things is to be desired; but blood must sometimes be spilled to obtain it on equable and lasting terms.

Andrew Jackson

Peace

Peace at Any Price; Peace and Union.

Millard Fillmore (1800-1874)

Slogan for his Native American Party (1856)

Peace

Peace is an unstable equilibrium, which can be preserved only by acknowledged supremacy or equal power.

Will Durantand ARIEL DURANT, The Lessons of History, chapter 11, p. 81 (1968).

Peace

Peace is like a beautiful woman, it's wonderful, but has been known to bear watching.

Will Rogers

Peace

Peace is more important than all justice; and peace was not made for the sake of justice, but justice for the sake of peace.

Martin Luther

Peace

Peace is not an absence of war, it is a virtue, a state of mind, a disposition for benevolence, confidence, justice.

Benedict Spinoza

Peace

Peace with all nations, and the right which that gives us with respect to all nations, are our object.

Thomas Jefferson, letter to Mr. Dumas, March 24, 1793.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. H. A. Washington, vol. 3, p. 535.

Peace

Regions of sorrow, doleful shades, where peace

And rest can never dwell, hope never comes

That comes to all.

John Milton

Paradise Lost, I, 65

Peace

Rest in soft peace, and, ask'd, say here doth lie

Ben Jonson his best piece of poetry:

For whose sake, henceforth, all his vows be such,

As what he loves may never like too much.

Ben Jonson

On My First Son; in Epigrams

Peace

So let us here resolve that Dag Hammarsl'jold did not live, or die, in vain. Let us call a truce to terror. Let us invoke the blessings of peace. And, as we build an international capacity to keep peace, let us join in dismantling the national capacity to wage war.

President John F. Kennedy, address before the General Assembly of the United Nations, New York City, September 25, 1961.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: John F Kennedy, 1961, p. 619.

Peace

That peace, safety, and concord may be the portion of our native land, and be long enjoyed by our fellow-citizens, is the most ardent wish of my heart, and if I can be instrumental in procuring or preserving them, I shall think I have not lived in vain.

President Thomas Jefferson, letter to Benjamin Waring and others, March 23, 1801.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Andrew A. Lipscomb, vol. 10, p. 235 (1903).

Peace

The plain truth is the day is coming when no single nation, however powerful, can undertake by itself to keep the peace outside its own borders. Regional and international organizations for peace-keeping purposes are as yet rudimentary; but they must grow in experience and be strengthened by deliberate and practical cooperative action.

Robert S. Mcnamara, secretary of defense, address before the American Society of Newspaper Editors, Montreal, Canada, May 19, 1966.—Congressional Record, May 19, 1966, vol. 112, p. 11114.

Peace

There are causes enough to separate people and to produce frictions and alienations. Let us not add to the world's bitterness and grief by ever encouraging strife; or putting a single coal on the fire of anger. Rather let us try to heal the little rifts we find in another's mind; let us try to change to kindly thoughts; continually seeking to promote peace between man and man; to keep people from drifting apart; and to draw friends and neighbors closer together in love.

J. R. Miller

Peace

They have healed also the hurt of the daughter of my people slightly, saying, Peace, peace; when there is no peace.

The Bible, Jeremiah 6:14.

Peace

Vade in pace.

Go in peace.

Anonymous Latin

End of confessional absolution

Peace

When things are investigated, then true knowledge is achieved; when true knowledge is achieved, then the will becomes sincere; when the will is sincere, then the heart is set right (or then the mind sees right); when the heart is set right, then the personal life is cultivated; when the personal life is cultivated, then the family life is regulated; when the family life is regulated, then the national life is orderly; and when the national life is orderly, then there is peace in this world.

Confucius, Liki (Record of Rites), chapter 42.—The Wisdom of Confficius, ed. and trans. Lin Yutang, chapter 4, pp. 139-40 (1938).

Peace

Where they make a desert, they call it peace.

Caius Cornelius Tacitus

Agricola, sec. 30

Peace

With malice toward none; with charity for all; with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan—to do all which may achieve and cherish a just, and a lasting peace, among ourselves, and with all nations.

President Abraham Lincoln, second inaugural address, conclusion, March 4, 1865.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P Basler, vol. 8, p. 333 (1953)."Both the Gettysburg address and the Second Inaugural Address mark the height of Lincoln's eloquence. The London Times called the latter the most sublime state paper of the century. Exactly two months later it was read over its author's grave."—Complete Works of Abraham Lincoln, new and enl. ed., ed. John G. Nicolay and John Hay, vol. 9, p. 44, footnote (1905).

An excerpt appears on a plaque on the Veterans Administration building in Washington, D.C.: "To care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow, and his orphan."

Peace

Yes, God and the politicians willing, the United States can declare peace upon the world, and win it.

Ely Culbertson, Must We Fight Russia, chapter 5, p. 19 (1946).

Pension

I plowed furrows in the ocean.

Simon Bolivar

Pension

Pension never enriched young man.

George Herbert

Jacula Prudentum, 499

Pension

Pension: in England, understood to mean pay given to a state hireling for treason to his country.

Dr. Samuel Johnson

People

A sense of this necessity, and a submission to it, is to me a new and consolatory proof that wherever the people are well informed they can be trusted with their own government; that whenever things get so far wrong as to attract their notice, they may be relied on to set them to rights.

Thomas Jefferson, letter to Richard Price, January 8, 1789.—The Papers of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Julian P Boyd, vol. 14, p. 420 (1958).

People

All the Utopias will come to pass only when we grow wings and all people are converted into angels.

Fyodor Dostoyevski (1821-1881)

The Diary of a Writer (1873)

People

From the people and for the people all springs and must exist.

Benjamin Disraeli (Earl of Beaconsfield) (1804-1881)

Quoted in magazine pages by Container Corporation

People

God must love the common man, he made so many of them.

Abraham Lincoln

People

I am a child of the House of Commons. I was brought up in my father's house to believe in democracy. "Trust the people"—that was his message.

Prime Minister Winston Churchill, speech to a joint session of Congress, Washington, D.C., December 26, 1941.—Winston S. Churchill: His Complete Speeches, 1897-1963, ed. Robert Rhodes James, vol. 6, p. 6536 (1974).

People

I am persuaded that diverse of you, who lead the people, have labored to build yourselves in these things; wherein you have censured others, and established yourselves "upon the Word of God." Is it therefore infallibly agreeable to the Word of God, all that you say? I beseech you, in the bowels of Christ, think it possible you may be mistaken.

Oliver Cromwell (1599-1658)

To the General Assembly of the Kirk of Scotland; or, in the case of their not sitting, To the commissioners of the Kirk of Scotland (before the Battle of Dunbar), August 3, 1650

People

I can not wish you success in your effort to reject the treaty because while it may win the fight it may destroy our cause. My plan cannot fail if the people are with us and we ought not to succeed unless we do have the people with us.

William Jennings Bryan, letter to Andrew Carnegie, January 13, 1899.—Bryan papers, Library of Congress.Andrew Carnegie, working to defeat the treaty of peace with Spain, unsuccessfully sought Bryan's help.

People

I do not want the voice of the people shut out.

Senator Huey Long, remarks in the Senate, May 16, 1932, Congressional Record, vol. 75, p. 10297.

People

I was told that the Priviliged and the People formed Two Nations, governed by different laws, influenced by different manners, with no thoughts or sympathies in common.

Benjamin Disraeli (Earl of Beaconsfield) (1804-1881)

Sybil (1845)

People

If I were to attempt to put my political philosophy tonight into a single phrase, it would be this: Trust the people. Trust their good sense, their decency, their fortitude, their faith. Trust them with the facts. Trust them with the great decisions. And fix as our guiding star the passion to create a society where people can fulfill their own best selves—where no American is held down by race or color by worldly condition or social status, from gaining what his character earns him as an American citizen, as a human being and as a child of God.

Adlai E. Stevenson, speech at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, September 13, 1956.—Stevenson, The New America, ed. Seymour E. Harris, Jr., pp. 13-14 (1971).

People

In the last analysis, my fellow countrymen, as we in America would be the first to claim, a people are responsible for the acts of their government.

President Woodrow Wilson, address, Columbus, Ohio, September 4, 1919.—The Messages and Papers of Woodrow Wilson, ed. Albert Shaw, vol. 2, p. 728 (1924).

People

It is as workingman, not as Negro, that the Negro is kept down in the South. It is the labor question, not the race questions, that keeps the South in turmoil.

Daniel Deleon (1852-1914)

Weekly People (July 2, 1910)

People

It is only after time has been given for cool and deliberate reflection that the real voice of the people can be known.

George Washington

People

Let them eat cake.

Author unknown. Commonly attributed to Marie Antoinette.

There is a good deal of conflicting evidence, however.

"At length I recollected the thoughtless saying of a great princess,

who, on being informed that the country people had no bread,

replied, 'Then let them eat cake.'"—Jean Jacques Rousseau,

Confessions, book 6, as cited by The Home Book of Quotations,

ed. Burton Stevenson, 9th ed., p. 1571, which adds this note:

"Usually attributed to Marie Antoinette, after her arrival in France

in 1770, but the sixth book of the Confessions was written

two or three years before that date. It is difficult to translate

'brioche,' which is not exactly cake, but a bun or fancy

bread something like Scotch scones."

Rousseau wrote the first six books of his Confessions

in 1766-1767, though the work was not published

until 1782-1789. Marie Antoinette lived 1755-1793.

In the London Sunday Telegraph of January 23, 1983, p. 6,

an unidentified columnist responded to a reader's inquiry

about this remark: [You] may be surprised to learn that it was

not attributed to her until more than half a century after her death.

However 15 years before Marie Antoinette's birth, Rousseau,

in his 'Confessions,' pinned the yarn on an Italian noblewoman.

King Louis XVIII of France in the 1820's wrote that the culprit

was the wife of his predecessor, Louis XIV, who had reigned a

couple of centuries before him: the only slight difference is

that she is supposed to have said pastry instead of cake. And in

1959 one of those numerous know-alls who write to the Times

said that John Peckham, a thirteenth century Archbishop of

Canterbury, tells the same story in a letter written in Latin."

A similar remark was attributed to Joseph Francois Foullon,

appointed minister of the king's household in 1789, who "was

reported, probably quite without foundation to have said,

'If the people cannot get bread, let them eat hay.'"

—Encyclopaedia Britannica, 11th ed., vol. 10, p. 738 (1910).

People

No democracy has ever long survived the failure of its adherents to be ready to die for it…. My own conviction is this, the people must either go on or go under.

Prime Minister David Lloyd George, address, conference of trade union delegates, London, January 18, 1918, as reported by The Times (London), January 19, 1918, p. 8.

People

No People can be bound to acknowledge and adore the invisible hand, which conducts the affairs of men more than the People of the United States. Every step, by which they have advanced to the character of an independent nation, seems to have been distinguished by some token of providential agency.

President George Washington, first inaugural address, April 30, 1789.—The Writings of George Washington, ed. John C. Fitzpatrick, vol. 30, p. 293 (1939).

People

People are difficult to govern because they have too much knowledge.

Lao Tzu

The Way of Lao Tzu 65

People

People are not an interruption of our business. People are our business.

Walter E. Washington, mayor of Washington, D.C., c. 1971.

People

People don't eat in the long run—they eat every day.

Attributed to Harry L. Hopkins, who headed the Federal Emergency Relief Administration in 1933.—Robert E. Sherwood, Roosevelt and Hopkins: An Intimate History, p. 52 (1948).

People

People often grudge others what they cannot enjoy themselves.

Aesop

The Dog in the Manger

People

People who make no noise are dangerous.

Jean de la Fontaine

Fables, bk. VIII, fable 23

People

The demagogue, putting up the people with words, sways them to his interest. When calamity follows he escapes from justice.

Euripides (485-406 B.C.)

The Suppliants (c. 420 B.C.)

People

The eyes of other people are the eyes that ruin us. If all but myself were blind, I should want neither fine clothes, fine houses, nor fine furniture.

Benjamin Franklin

People

The mobs of great cities add just so much to the support of pure government, as sores do to the strength of the human body. It is the manners and spirit of a people which preserve a republic in vigor. A degeneracy in these is a canker which soon eats to the heart of its laws and constitution.

Thomas Jefferson, Notes on Virginia, query 19, reprinted in The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Andrew A. Lipscomb, vol. 2, p. 230 (1903).

People

The mobs of the great cities…sores on the body politic.

Thomas Jefferson

People

The murdering and thieving rabble of the peasants.

Martin Luther

People

The people who believe most that our greatness and welfare are proved by our being very rich, and who most give their lives and thoughts to becoming rich, are just the very people whom we call Philistines. Culture says, "Consider these people manners, the very tones of their voices; look at them attentively; observe the literature they read, the things which give them pleasure, the words which come from out of their mouths, the thoughts which make the furniture of their minds: would any amount of wealth be worth having with the condition that one has to become just like these people by having it?" And thus culture begets a dissatisfaction which is of the highest possible value in stemming the common tide of men's thoughts in a wealthy and industrial community; and which may save the future, as one may hope, from being vulgarized, even if it cannot save the present.

Matthew Arnold

Essays in Criticism.

People

The people—that great beast!

Alexander Hamilton

People

The President tonight has a dream:—He was in a party of plain people, and, as it became known who he was, they began to comment on his appearance. One of them said:—"He is a very common-looking man." The President replied:—"The Lord prefers common-looking people. That is the reason he makes so many of them."

Attributed to President Abraham Lincoln, December 23, 1863.—John Hay, Letters of John Hay and Extracts from Diary, vol. 1, pp. 142-43 (1908, reprinted 1969).

People

The tumultuous populace of large cities are ever to be dreaded.

George Washington

People

The voice of the people is the voice of God. (Vox populi, vox Dei.)

Alcuin

Epistle to Charlemagne

People

The worst of all states is the people's state.

Pierre Corneille (1606-1684)

Cinna (1640), Act II

People

There are people in our society who should be separated and discarded. I think it's one of the tendencies of the liberal community to feel that every person in a nation of over 200 million people can be made into a productive citizen.

I'm realist enough to believe this can't be. We're always going to have our prisons, we're always going to have our places of preventive detention for psychopaths, and we're always going to have a certain number of people in our community who have no desire to achieve or who have no desire to even fit in an amicable way with the rest of society.

And these people should be separated from the community, not in a callous way but they should be separated as far as any idea that their opinions shall have any effect on the course we follow.

Vice President Spiro T. Agnew, comments during interview for European audiences which was recorded in Washington, D.C., then broadcast over British Independent Television on June 30, 1970, as reported by The Washington Post, July 2, 1970, p. A3.

People

There's a sucker born every minute.

Phineas T. Barnum

People

Though the logos is common to all, the many live as if they had private understanding.

Heraclitus

Fragment 2

People

We would often be sorry if our wishes were gratified.

Aesop

The Old Man and Death

People

When the people applauded him wildly, he [Phocion] turned to one of his friends and said, "Have I said something foolish?"

Diogenes Laertius

People

When the People contend for their liberty, they seldom get anything for their Victory but new Masters.

Lord Halifax (George Savile)

People

Where there is no vision, the people perish.

The Bible, Proverbs 29:18.

People

Would yee both eat your cake, and have your cake?

John Heywood,

The Proverbs of John Heywood, part 2,

chapter 9, p. 162 (1598, reprinted 1874, 1978).

The idea that if you spend a thing you cannot have it goes back

much further than Heywood's original 1546 work. Plautus wrote

c. 194 B.C. in Trinummus (act II, scene iv, line 414),

"Non tibi illud apparere si sumas potest" (if you spend a thing you

cannot have it), translated as "You cannot eat your cake and have

it too" by one Englishman.—Comedies of Plautus, trans.

Bonnell Thornton, 2d ed., rev., vol. 2, p. 29 (1769).

People

Youngsters read it, grown men understand it, and old people applaud it.

Miguel de Cervantes

Don Quixote, pt. II, III, 3, 464

People

Your country is calling you. Our people are calling us. The people of America are calling us to relieve them from the distress that has infested this entire Nation as the result of following the Cabinet officers of the present administration. Your people are asking you to deliver them from this condition that now exists. They are asking relief.

Senator Huey Long, remarks in the Senate, May 16, 1932, Congressional Record, vol. 75, p. 10307.

People

Your people, sir, is nothing but a great beast!

Attributed to Alexander Hamilton, in a political argument with Thomas Jefferson.—David S. Muzzey, An American History, p. 192 (1911).

For similar expressions of this idea going back to Horace, see Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, 15th ed., p. 108, no. 19 and footnotes (1982), and The Home Book of Quotations, ed. Burton Stevenson, 9th ed., p. 1483-84, section 7 (1964).

Perfection

Everything that grows

Holds in perfection but a little moment.

William Shakespeare

Sonnet 15, 1

Perfection

That soul that can

Be honest is the only perfect man.

John Fletcher

The Honest Man's Fortune (in collaboration with three other authors), epilogue

Perfection

A man without flaw.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Satires, I, v, 32

Perfection

Among mortals, who is faultless?

Confucius

Perfection

Be not angry that you cannot make others as you wish them to be, since you cannot make yourself as you wish to be.

Thomas A. Kempis

Imitation of Christ, I, 16

Perfection

By his father he is English, by his mother he is American—to my mind the blend which makes the perfect man.

Mark Twain (Samuel L. Clemens), introducing Winston Churchill, New York City, December 12, 1900.—Mark Twain Speaking, ed. Paul Fatout, p. 368 (1976).

Perfection

I never expect to see a perfect work from imperfect man.

Alexander Hamilton, The Federalist, ed. Benjamin F. Wright, no. 85, p. 544 (1961).

Perfection

Man cannot reach perfection in a hundred years; but he can fall in a day with time to spare.

Wisdom of the Chinese

Perfection

No one can be perfectly free till all are free; no one can be perfectly moral till all are moral; no one can be perfectly happy till all are happy.

Herbert Spencer,

Social Statics, part 4,

chapter 30, last sentence,

p. 456 (1851).

Perfection

Nothing quite new is perfect.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

Brutus, 71

Perfection

People throw away what they could have by insisting on perfection which they cannot have, and searching for it where they will never find it.

Edith Schaeffer

Perfection

Sire, the desire of perfection is the worst disease that ever afflicted the human mind.

Louis Marquis de Fontanes (1757-1821)

To Napoleon, Senate, 1804; attributed by Emerson

Perfection

The finer the nature, the more flaws it will show though the clearness of it; and it is a law of this universe, that the best things shall seldomest be seen in their best form.

John Ruskin

Perfection

The pursuit of perfection, then, is the pursuit of sweetness and list.

Matthew Arnold

Essays on Criticism, 2nd series; Thomas Gray.

Perfection

Trifles make perfection, but perfection is no trifle.

Michelangelo

Perfection

We are all imperfect. We can not expect perfect government.

President William Howard Taft, address at a banquet given in his honor by the Board of Trade and Chamber of Commerce of Washington, D.C., May 8, 1909.—Presidential Addresses and State Papers of William Howard Taft, vol. 1, chapter 7, p. 82 (1910).

Perfection

We are morally and intellectually superior to all men. We are peerless. So, too, are our organizations and our institutions. [Germany was] the most perfect political creation known to history, [the Kaiser] deliciae humani generis, [and the Imperial Chancellor, Herr von Bethmann-Hollweg] the most eminent of living men.

Adolf Lasson.—The Times (London), History of the War, vol. 5, p. 170 (1915). This noted Hegelian philosopher and German nationalist is also quoted by Georges Clemenceau, Grandeur and Misery of Victory, p. 278 (1930).

Perseverance

To perserver

In obstinate condolement is a course

Of impious stubbornness; 'tis unmanly grief:

It shows a will most incorrect to heaven,

A heart unfortified, a mind impatient.

William Shakespeare

Hamlet, I, ii, 92

Perseverance

'Tis known by the name of perseverance in a good cause, and obstinacy in a bad one.

Laurence Sterne

Perseverance

Perseverance, dear my lord,

Keeps honor bright: to have done, is to hang

Quite out of fashion, like a rusty mail

In monumental mockery.

William Shakespeare

Troilus and Cressida, III, iii, 150

Perseverance

A hard fall means a high bounce….If you're made of the right material.

Author Unknown

Perseverance

By perseverance the snail reached the ark.

Charles H. Spurgeon

Perseverance

Diamonds are only chunks of coal,

That stuck to their jobs, you see.

Minnie Richard Smith, "Stick to Your Job," lines 1-2.—Christian F. Kleinknecht, Poor Richard's Anthology of Thoughts on Success, p. 44 (1947).

Perseverance

Fluctuat nec mergitur.

It tosses but doesn't sink.

Anonymous Latin

Motto of Paris

Perseverance

I will not cease from Mental Fight,

Till we have built Jerusalem,

Nor shall my Sword sleep in my hand

In England's green & pleasant Land.

William Blake

Milton, preface.

Perseverance

Never despair; but if you do, work on in despair.

Edmund Burke

Perseverance

Never give in, never give in, never never never never—in nothing, great or small, large or petty—never give in except to convictions of honour and good sense.

Prime Minister Winston Churchill, speech at Harrow School, Harrow, England, October 29, 1941.—Winston S. Churchill: His Complete Speeches, 1897-1963, ed. Robert Rhodes James, vol. 6, p. 6499 (1974).

Perseverance

No athlete is crowned but in the sweat of his brow.

St. Jerome

Letter, 14

Perseverance

Nothing in the World can take the place of persistence. Talent will not; nothing is more common than unsuccessful men with talent. Genius will not; unrewarded genius is almost a proverb. Education will not; the world is full of educated derelicts. Persistence and determination are omnipotent. The slogan "press on" has solved and always will solve the problems of the human race.

Attributed to Calvin Coolidge.

Unverified, though this appeared on the cover of the program

of a memorial service for him in 1933. The Forbes Library,

Northampton, Massachusetts, has searched its Coolidge

collection many times for this.

Perseverance

Only by humble obedience to the end of our probation can we receive the greatest happiness and celestial life.

Virgil M. Smith

Perseverance

Perseverance is more prevailing than violence; and many things which cannot be overcome when they are together yield themselves up when taken little by little.

Plutarch

Perseverance

The difference between perseverance and obstinacy is, that one often comes from a strong will, and the other from a strong won't.

Henry Ward Beecher

Perseverance

The world wants the kind of men who do not shrink from temporary defeats in life, but come again and wrestle triumph from defeat.

Theodore Roosevelt

Perseverance

Tough times never last…but…tough people do.

Robert Schuller

Perseverance

We shall fight on the beaches, we shall fight on the landing grounds, we shall fight in the fields and in the streets, we shall fight in the hills; we shall never surrender and even if, which I do not for a moment believe, this island or a large part of it were subjugated and starving, then our Empire beyond the seas, armed and guarded by the British Fleet, would carry on the struggle, until, in God's good time, the New World, with all its power and might, steps forth to the rescue and the liberation of the old.

Prime Minister Winston Churchill, speech in the House of Commons after successful evacuation of Allied troops at Dunkirk, France, June 4, 1940.—Winston S. Churchill: His Complete Speeches, 1897-1963, ed. Robert Rhodes James, vol. 6, p. 6231 (1974).

Perseverance

We should never despair our situation before has been unpromising and has changed for the better, so I trust, it will again. If new difficulties arise, we must only put forth new exertions and proportion our efforts to the exigency of the times.

General George Washington, letter to Major General Philip Schuyler July 15, 1777.—The Writings of George Washington, ed. John C. Fitzpatrick, vol. 8, p. 408 (1933).This letter concerns the loss of Fort Ticonderoga.

Perseverance

When the going gets tough and you feel like you can't take another step—that's the time to start running"—this was told to Jimmy Clawson at the end of a 10 day survival camp when they were 10 miles from base camp when he expected a truck to haul him back to camp—he did eventually begin to run—got his second wind and felt unbelievably good when he reached base camp.—Age 14.

Author Unknown

Perseverance

When things go wrong as they sometimes will,

And the road you're traveling seems all up-hill;

When funds are low and debts are high,

And you want to laugh but you have to sigh;

When cares are pressing you down a bit,

Rest if you must—but don't you quit.

Author Unknown

Perseverance

When things go wrong, as they sometimes will,

When the road you're trudging seems all up hill,

….When care is pressing you down a bit,

Rest, if you must—but don't you quit.

….Often the goal is nearer than

It seems to a faint and faltering man,

Often the struggler has given up

When he might have captured the victor's cup.

Author unknown, "Don't Quit."—Hazel Felleman, The Best Loved Poems of the American People, pp. 113-14 (1936, reprinted 1957).

Persistence

Keep on going and the chances are you will stumble on something, perhaps when you are least expecting it. I have never heard of anyone stumbling on something sitting down.

Charles F. Kettering

Personalities

I am not a man but a mob.

H. G. Wells

Personalities

Two souls are lodged within my breast that struggle there for undivided reign.

Goethe

Personalities

When you meet up with a disagreeable person, never allow yourself to be upset. Say to yourself, 'If a dowdy like that can stand himself all his life, surely I can stand him for a few minutes.

Author Unknown

Personalities

You talk about a civil war. There seems to be one going on inside of me all of the time. One of these days I may just split asunder and part company with myself.

Robert Sherwood

Perspective

You cannot see the wood for the trees.

John Heywood

Proverbs, Pt. II, Ch. 4

Philosophy/Philosophers

Philosophy triumphs easily over past evils and future evils; but present evils triumph over it.

Francois Rochefoucauld

Reflections; or, Sentences and Moral Maxims, 22

Philosophy/Philosophers

…cogito, ergo sum…can only mean, "I think therefore I am a thinker." The truth is, sum ergo cogito.

The real and concrete truth, not the methodical and ideal, is: homo sum, ergo cogito.

Unamuno, The Tragic Sense of Life

Philosophy/Philosophers

A sick man dreams nothing so dreadful that some philosopher isn't saying it.

Marcus Terentius Varro

Satires, fragment 122

Philosophy/Philosophers

A thing is not proved because no one has ever questioned it…. Skepticism is the first step toward truth.

Denis Diderot (1713-1784)

Pensées philosophiques (1746)

Philosophy/Philosophers

All good moral philosphy is but the handmaid to religion.

The Advancement of Learning, II, xxii, 14

Philosophy/Philosophers

All philosophy lies in two words: sustain and abstain.

Epictetus (c. 50-120 A.D.)

Discourses

Philosophy/Philosophers

But what, then am I? A thinking being, it has been said. But what is a thinking thing? It is a thing that doubts, understands (conceives), affirms, denies, wills, refuses, that imagines also, and perceives. Assuredly it is not little, if all these properties belong to my nature.

René Descartes (1596-1650)

Meditationes de prima philosophia (1629-1639)

Philosophy/Philosophers

Cheer'd up himself with ends of verse,

And sayings of philosophers.

Samuel Butler

Hudibras, I, III, 1011

Philosophy/Philosophers

Cogito cogitationes, ergo sum, and cogito me cogitare, ergo sum are the correct forms of the famous formula.

Hannah Arendt, quoted in The New Yorker, November 21, 1977

Philosophy/Philosophers

Descartes' Cogito, ergo sum has the meaning "One lives only when one thinks."

…the saying should be labore, ergo sum; I labor therefore I am a man.

Stirner, The Ego and Its Own

Philosophy/Philosophers

Every man is a quotation from all his ancestors.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Representative Men (1850), "Plato; or The Philosopher"

Philosophy/Philosophers

For there was never yet philosopher

That could endure the toothache patiently.

William Shakespeare

Much Ado About Nothing, V, i, 35

Philosophy/Philosophers

Give me a lever long enough

And a prop strong enough.

I can single-handed move the world.

(Another translation: Give me a place to stand on and I will move the earth.)

Archimedes

Philosophy/Philosophers

He [the philosopher] does not hold aloof in order that he may gain a reputation; but the truth is, that the outer form of him only is in the city: his mind, disdaining the littlenesses and nothingnesses of human beings, is "flying all abroad" as Pindar says, measuring earth and heaven and the things which are under and on the earth and above the heaven, interrogating the whole nature of each and all in their entirety, but not condescending to anything which is within reach.

Plato

Dialogues, Theaetetus, 173

Philosophy/Philosophers

I am an Epicurean. I consider the genuine (not imputed) doctrines of Epicurus as containing everything rational in moral philosophy which Greek and Roman leave to us.

Thomas Jefferson

Letter to William Short, 1819

Philosophy/Philosophers

I rebel, therefore I am.

Camus, quoted in New York Times, October 29, 1967

Philosophy/Philosophers

I think that I think; therefore, I think I am. Cogito cogito, ergo cogito sum.

Ambrose Bierce

The Devil's Dictionary.

Philosophy/Philosophers

I think that I think; therefore, I think that I am. Cogito cogito, ergo cogito sum.

Bierce, The Devil's Dictionary, "Cartesian" (1906)

Philosophy/Philosophers

I think that in the discussion of natural problems we ought to begin not with the Scriptures, but with experiments and demonstrations.

Galileo Galilei (1564-1642)

The Authority of Scripture in Philosophical Controversies

Philosophy/Philosophers

If I wished to punish a province, I would have it governed by philosophers.

Frederick The Great

Philosophy/Philosophers

If reason be a gift of Heaven, and we can say as much of faith, Heaven has certainly made us two gifts not only incompatible, but in direct contradiction to each other. In order to solve the difficulty, we are compelled to say either that faith is a chimera or that reason is useless.

Denis Diderot (1713-1784)

A Philosophical Conversation (1777)

Philosophy/Philosophers

It must be so, Plato, thou reason'st well!

Else whence this pleasing hope, this fond desire, this longing after immortality?

Joseph Addison

Cato.

Philosophy/Philosophers

Metaphysics is the science of proving what we don't understand.

Josh Billings

Philosophy/Philosophers

Morality: walking like others upon the path.

Chuang-Tzu (4th-3rd century B.C.)

Philosophy, Ch. 10

Philosophy/Philosophers

O philosophy, you leader of life.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

Tusculanae Disputationes, V, 2

Philosophy/Philosophers

Of some men we should not say that they fear God, but that they are afraid of Him.

Denis Diderot (1713-1784)

Pensées philosophiques (1746), Bk. VIII

Philosophy/Philosophers

Old men (meaning Tolstoy) have always been prone to see the end of the world. The hell with the philosophy of the great of this world.

Anton Chekhov

The Selected Letters of Anton Chekhov, 1955.

Philosophy/Philosophers

One cannot conceive anything so strange and so implausible that it has not already been said by one philosopher or another.

René Descartes

Le Discours de la Methode, II

Philosophy/Philosophers

Only the first word of the Cartesian philosophy is true: it was not possible for Descartes to say cogito, ergo sum, but only cogito.

Author Unknown

Philosophy/Philosophers

Philosophers should diligently inquire into the powers and energy of custom, exercise, habit, education, example, imitation, emulation, company, friendship, praise, reproof, exhortation, reputation, laws, books, studies, etc.; for these are the things that reign in men's morals; by these agents the mind is formed and subdued.

Francis Bacon

Advancement of Learning.

Philosophy/Philosophers

Philosophy means the complete liberty of the mind, and therefore independence of all social, political, or religious prejudice. ….It loves one thing only—truth. If it disturbs the ready-made opinions of the Church or the State—of the historical medium—in which the philosopher happens to have been born, so much the worse, but there is no help for it.

Henri Frederic Amiel

Journal.

Philosophy/Philosophers

Philosophy means, first, doubt; and afterwards the consciousness of what knowledge means, the consciousness of uncertainty and of ignorance, the consciousness of limit, shade, degree, possibility. The ordinary man doubts nothing and suspects nothing.

Henri Frederic Amiel

Journal.

Philosophy/Philosophers

Shall I show you the sinews of a philosopher? "What sinews are those?"—A will undisappointed; evils avoided; powers daily exercised; careful resolutions; unerring decisions.

Epictetus

Discourses, II, 8

Philosophy/Philosophers

Socrates is a doer of evil, who corrupts the youth; and who does not believe in the gods of the state, but has other new divinities of his own. Such is the charge.

Plato

Dialogues, Apology 24

Philosophy/Philosophers

Socrates was the first to call philosophy down from the heavens and to place it in cities, and even to introduce it into homes and compel it to inquire about life and standards and goods and evils.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

Tusculanae Disputationes, V, 4

Philosophy/Philosophers

Some of these philosophers tried to extinguish all of their passions, as did the Cynics and Stoics. That is evidently madness, for we cannot extinguish passion without destroying our whole body.

Arnold Geulinex (1624-1669)

Ethics

Philosophy/Philosophers

Supposing a man-hater had desired to render the human race as unhappy as possible, what could he have invented for the purpose better than belief in an incomprehensible being about whom men could never be able to agree?

Denis Diderot (1713-1784)

A Philosophical Conversation (1777)

Philosophy/Philosophers

The doctrine of the movements of the earth and the fixity of the sun is condemned on the ground that the Scriptures speak in many places of the sun moving and the earth standing still….

It is piously spoken that the Scriptures cannot lie. But none will deny that they are frequently abstruse and their true meaning difficult to discover, and more than the bare words signify.

Galileo Galilei (1564-1642)

The Authority of Scripture in Philosophical Controversies

Philosophy/Philosophers

The leading principle of Descartes' philosophy was Cogito, ergo sum—"I think, therefore I exist"; and having laid this foundation-stone, he built an enormous building, the ruins of which lie scattered up and down among the sciences in disordered glory and venerable confusion.

Sydney Smith, "Lecture on the Conduct of Understanding," 1806

Philosophy/Philosophers

The philosopher and lover of man have much harm to say of trade; but the historian will see that trade was the principle of Liberty; that trade planted American and destroyed Feudalism; that it makes peace and keeps peace, and it will abolish slavery.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Addresses and Lectures, "The Young American" (1844)

Philosophy/Philosophers

The point is to get into heaven by hook or by crook.

Denis Diderot (1713-1784)

A Philosophical Conversation (1777)

Philosophy/Philosophers

The point of departure of the individual and of the race being the same, the phases of the mind of a man correspond to the epochs of the mind of the race. Now, each of us is aware, if he looks back upon his own history, that he was a theologian in his childhood, a metaphysician in his youth, and a natural philosopher in his manhood. All men who are up to their age can verify this for themselves.

Auguste Comte (1798-1857)

Cours de philosophie positive (1840-42) [The Positive Philosophy] (Tr. Harriet Martineau, 1853)

Philosophy/Philosophers

The positive philosophy has hitherto intervened to examine both [the theological and metaphysical philosophies], and both are abundantly discredited by the process. It is time now to be doing something more effective, without wasting our forces in needless controversy. It is time to complete the vast intellectual operation begun by Bacon, Descartes, and Galileo, by constructing the system of general ideas which must henceforth prevail among the human race. This is the way to put an end to the revolutionary crisis which is tormenting the civilized nations of the world.

Auguste Comte (1798-1857)

Cours de philosophie positive (1840-42) [The Positive Philosophy] (Tr. Harriet Martineau, 1853), Vol. I, Ch. 1

Philosophy/Philosophers

The various opinions of philosophers have scattered through the world as many plagues of the mind as Pandora's box did those of the body, only with this difference, that they have not left hope at the bottom.

Jonathan Swift

Philosophy/Philosophers

The whole life of the philosopher is a preparation for death.

Marcus Tullius Cicero (106-43 B.C.)

Tusculanes Disputationes (47-44 B.C.)

Philosophy/Philosophers

There is nothing so ridiculous but some philosopher has said it.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

De Divinatione, II, 119

Philosophy/Philosophers

There is only one thing a philosopher can be relied on to do, and that is to contradict other philosophers.

William James

Philosophy/Philosophers

There is something in this more than natural, if philosophy could find it out.

William Shakespeare

Hamlet, II, ii, 392

Philosophy/Philosophers

There is, of course, the cogito ergo sum principle—perhaps the most famous of all philosophical theories…which incidentally, is fallacious.

Barrows Dunham, Man Against Myth

Philosophy/Philosophers

To prove the Gospels by a miracle is to prove an absurdity by something contrary to nature.

Denis Diderot (1713-1784)

Pensées philosophiques (1746), Bk. XXI

Philosophy/Philosophers

To ridicule philosophy is really to philosophize.

Blaise Pascal

Pensees, 430

Philosophy/Philosophers

Until philosophers are kings…cities will never cease from ill, nor the human race.

Plato

Philosophy/Philosophers

What is philosophy but a continual battle against custom; an ever-renewed effort to transcend the sphere of blind custom, and so become transcendental?

Thomas Carlyle

Sartor Resartus, III.

Philosophy/Philosophers

What is philosophy but a continual battle against custom?

Thomas Carlyle

Philosophy/Philosophers

What is there, then, that can be esteemed true? Perhaps this only, that there is absolutely nothing certain.

René Descartes (1596-1650)

Meditationes de prima philosophia (1629-1639)

Philosophy/Philosophers

When the speaker and he to whom he speaks do not understand, that is metaphysics.

Voltaire

Philosophy/Philosophers

I observed that, whilst I thus wished to think that all was false, it was absolutely necessary that I, who thus thought, should be somewhat; as I observed that this truth, I think, hence I am [Cogito, ergo sum usually translated 'I think therefore I am'] was so certain and of such evidence, that no ground of doubt, however extravagant, could be alleged by the sceptics capable of shaking it, I concluded that I might, without scruple, accept it as the first principle of the philosophy of which I was in search.

René Descartes (1596-1650)

A Discourse On Method (1637), Part IV

Pioneers

Go west, young man, and grow up with the country.

Horace Greeley

Pioneers

They knew they were pilgrims.

William Bradford

Pity

I never knew whether to pity or congratulate a man on coming to his senses.

William Makepeace Thackeray

Pity

No beast so fierce but know some touch of pity.

William Shakespeare

King Richard III, I, ii, 71

Pity

There are two sorts of pity; one is a balm and the other a poison; the first is realized by friends, the last by our enemies.

Charles Sumner

Plagiarism

Adam was the only man who, when he said a good thing, knew that nobody had said it before him.

Mark Twain

Plagiarism

Call them, if you please, bookmakers, not authors; range them rather among second-hand dealers than plagiarists.

Voltaire

Plagiarism

Fine words! I wonder where you stole them.

Jonathan Swift

Plagiarism

In comparing various authors with one another, I have discovered that some of the gravest and latest writers have transcribed, word for word, from former works, without making acknowledgment.

Pliny the Elder

Natural History, I, dedication, 22

Plagiarism

Plagiarists are always suspicious of being stolen from.

Samuel Taylor Coleridge

Plagiarism

Plagiarists, at least, have the merit of preservation.

Benjamin Disraeli

Plagiarism

Stop abusing my verses, or publish some of your own.

Martial [Marcus Valerius Martialis]

Epigrams, I, 91

Plagiarism

The difference between a bad artist and a good one is: The bad artist seems to copy a great deal; the good one really does.

William Blake

Planet Earth

In wilderness is the preservation of the world.

Henry David Thoreau

Planet Earth

What is the use of a house if you haven't got a tolerable planet to put it on?

Henry David Thoreau

Planning

Make no little plans, they have not the power to stir men's souls.

Voltaire

Planning

Nothing is more terrible than activity without insight.

Thomas Carlyle

Planning

Our plans miscarry because they have no aim. When a man does not know what harbor he is making for, no wind is the right wind.

Seneca

Planning

Pale ink is better than the most retentive memory.

Confucius

Planning

Planning is in the power of man; executing is in the hands of Heaven.

Mencius

Planning

We must ask where we are and whither we are tending.

Abraham Lincoln

Plans

In the space of two days I had evolved two plans, wholly distinct, both of which were equally feasible. The point I am trying to bring out is that one does not plan and then try to make circumstances fit those plans. One tries to make plans fit the circumstances.

General George S. Patton, Jr., War as I Knew It, p. 116 (1947).

Plans

Make no little plans; they have no magic to stir men's blood and probably themselves will not be realized. Make big plans; aim high in hope and work, remembering that a noble, logical diagram once recorded will never die, but long after we are gone will be a living thing, asserting itself with ever-growing insistency. Remember that our sons and grandsons are going to do things that would stagger us. Let your watchword be order and your beacon beauty.

Attributed to Daniel H. Burnham. While Burnham expressed these thoughts in a paper he read before the Town Planning Conference, London, 1910, the exact words were reconstructed by Willis Polk, Burnham's San Francisco partner. Polk used the paragraph on Christmas cards in 1912 after Burnham's death in June of that year.—Henry H. Saylor, "Make No Little Plans," Journal of the American Institute of Architects, March 1957, pp. 95-99.

Plans

The hardest strokes of heaven fall in history upon those who imagine that they can control things in a Sovereign manner as though they were kings of the earth, playing Providence not only for themselves but for the far future—reaching out into the future with the wrong kind of far-sightedness, and gambling on a lot of risky calculations in which there must never be a single mistake. And it is a defect in such enthusiasts that they seem unwilling to leave anything to Providence, unwilling even to leave the future flexible, as one must do; and they forget that in any case, for all we know, our successors may decide to switch ideals and look for a different utopia before any of our long shots have reached their objective, or any of our long-range projects have had fulfillment. It is agreeable to all the processes of history, therefore, that each of us should rather do the good that is straight under our noses. Those people work more wisely who seek to achieve good in their own small corner of the world and then leave the leaven to leaven the whole lump, than those who are for ever thinking that life is vain unless one can act through the central government, carry legislation, achieve political power and do big things.

Herbert Butterfield, Christianity and History, p. 104 (1949).

Play

A nation declines when its people become too serious to set their hearts on toys.

Eric Hoffer

Play

If you can spend a perfectly useless afternoon in a perfectly useless manner you have learned how to live.

Lin Yutang

Play

In our play we reveal what kind of people we are.

Ovid

Pleasure

And painful pleasure turns to pleasing pain.

Edmund Spenser

The Faerie Queene, III, 10, 60

Pleasure

Carnal pleasure hinders deliberation, is at war with reason, blindfolds the eyes of the mind, so to speak, and has no fellowship with virtue.

Marcus Tullius Cicero (106-43 B.C.)

De Finibus

Pleasure

I know not how to conceive the good, apart from the pleasures of taste, sexual pleasure, the pleasures of sound, and the pleasures of beautiful forms.

Diogenes Laertius (fl. 200 A.D.)

Lives and Opinions of Eminent Philosophers, "Epicurus"

Pleasure

It is a double pleasure to deceive the deceiver.

Jean de la Fontaine

Fables, bk. II, fable 15

Pleasure

It is a very hard undertaking to seek to please everybody.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 675

Pleasure

Like the lark that soars in the air, first singing, then silent, content with the last sweetness that satiates it, such seemed to me that image, the imprint of the Eternal Pleasure.

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy. Paradiso, canto XX, 73

Pleasure

Necessity brings him [Dante] here, not pleasure.

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy, Canto XII, 87

Pleasure

No pleasure endures unseasoned by variety.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 406

Pleasure

No pleasure is comparable to the standing upon the vantage-ground of truth.

Francis Bacon

Essays, Of Truth

Pleasure

Pleasant it is, when over a great sea the winds trouble the waters, to gaze from shore upon another's tribulation: not because any man's troubles are a delectable joy, but because to perceive from what ills you are free yourself is pleasant.

Lucretius [Titus Lucretius Carus]

De Rerum Natura, II, 1

Pleasure

Pleasure is the beginning and the end of living happily.

Epicurus

From Diogenes Laertius, X, 128

Pleasure

The greatest and noblest pleasure which men can have in this world is to discover new truths; and the next is to shake off old prejudices.

Frederick The Great

Pleasure

The greatest pleasure I know is to do a good act by stealth, and to have it found out by accident.

Charles Lamb

Pleasure

The Pleasures of the Rich are bought with the Tears of the Poor.

Thomas Fuller (1654-1734)

Gnomologia (1732), No. 4707

Pleasure

To sit alone in the lamplight with a book spread out before you, and hold intimate converse with men of unseen generations—such is a pleasure beyond compare.

Yoshida Kenko

Tsurezure-Gusa (Essays in Idleness)

Pleasure/Pain

Pleasure is the only thing to live for. Nothing ages like happiness.

Oscar Wilde

Pleasure/Pain

There is no such thing as pure pleasure; some anxiety always goes with it.

Ovid

Pleasure

Put this restriction on your pleasures, be cautious that they injure no being that lives.

John Zimmerman

Pleasure

That man is the richest whose pleasures are the cheapest.

Henry David Thoreau

Pledge Of Allegiance

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

Pledge of allegiance to the flag.—36 United States Code 172 (1982 ed.).This pledge was first used at the dedication of the World's Fair Grounds in Chicago, Illinois, on October 21, 1892, the four hundredth anniversary of the discovery of America and the first celebration of Columbus Day, which had been proclaimed by the president and made a national holiday by Congress. It was published in The Youth's Companion, September 8, 1892, p. 446, with this wording: "I pledge allegiance to my Flag and the Republic for which it stands: one Nation indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for all."

No single author was named; the program bore the names of the executive committee, including the chairman, Francis Bellamy. A story in The Youth's Companion, December 20, 1917, p. 722, credits the authorship of the pledge to James B. Upham with the assistance of the 1892 committee, but in 1939 a scholarly committee of the United States Flag Association studied the question of authorship and "decided that to Francis Bellamy unquestionably belongs the honor and distinction of being the author of the original Pledge to the Flag."—Margarette S. Miller, I Pledge Allegiance, pp. 162-69 (1946). Also Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, p. 4 (1955). House Doc. 84-225.The wording of the 1892 pledge was originally the twenty-two words above, but the word "to" preceding "the Republic" was added immediately after the first celebration. The First National Flag Conference, 1923, altered the wording from "my Flag" to "the Flag of the United States," and the following year the Second National Flag Conference added "of America" to that phrase.—Miller, op. cit., pp. 156-58.

Public Law 79-287, December 28, 1945, made this officially the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Public Law 83-396, signed on Flag Day, June 14, 1954, added the phrase "under God."

Pledge Of Allegiance

If I may I would like to recite the Pledge of Allegiance and give you a definition for each word.

I—me, an individual, a committee of one.

Pledge—dedicate all of my worldly goods to give without self-pity.

Allegiance—my love and my devotion.

To the Flag—our standard, Old Glory, a symbol of freedom. Wherever she waves, there is respect because your loyalty has given her a dignity that shouts freedom is everybody's job.

Of the United—that means that we have all come together.

States—individual communities that have united into 48 great states, 48 individual communities with pride and dignity and purpose, all divided with imaginary boundaries, yet united to a common purpose, and that's love for country.

Of America.

And to the Republic—a state in which Sovereign power is invested in representatives chosen by the people to govern. And government is the people and it's from the people to the leaders, not from the leaders to the people.

For which it stands.

One nation—meaning, so blessed by God.

Indivisible—incapable of being divided.

With liberty—which is freedom and the right of power to live one's own life without threats or fear or some sort of retaliation.

And justice—The principle or quality of dealing fairly with others.

For all—which means "it's as much your country as it is mine."

Red Skelton, remarks in the House, Flag Day, June 14, 1972, Congressional Record, vol. 118, p. 20859.

Poetry

"Painters and poets," you say, "have always had an equal license in bold invention." We know; we claim the liberty for ourselves and in turn we give it to others.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Epistles, III, 9

Poetry

"The man that hath no music in his soul" can indeed never be a genuine poet.

Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1772-1834)

Biographia Literaria (1817), Ch. XV

Poetry

All poetry [is] putting the infinite within the finite.

Robert Browning

Poetry

All that is not prose is verse; and all that is not verse is prose.

Molière [Jean Baptiste Poquelin]

Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme, II, 4

Poetry

Catullus, the worst of all poets, gives you [Marcus Tullius] his warmest thanks; he being as much the worst of all poets as you are the best of all patrons.

Gaius Valerius Catullus

Carmina, XLIX, 4

Poetry

For rhyme the rudder is of verses,

With which like ships they steer their courses.

Samuel Butler

Hudibras, I, I, 457

Poetry

He does not write at all whose poems no man reads.

Martial

Poetry

I never indulge in poetics

Unless I am down with rheumatics.

Quintus Ennius

Fragment of a satire (quoted by Priscianus)

Poetry

I would define, in brief, the Poetry of words as the Rhythmical Creation of Beauty. Its sole arbiter is Taste.

Edgar Allan Poe

Poetry

If…it makes my whole body so cold no fire can warm me, I know that is poetry.

Emily Dickinson

Poetry

In the expression of the emotions originality merits the first consideration…. The words used, however, should be old ones….

The style should imitate the great poems of the masters of former times. One must discard every last phrase of the sentiments and expressions written by men of recent times….

One should impregnate one's mind with a constant study of the forms of expression of ancient poetry.

There are no teachers of Japanese poetry. But they who take the old poems as their teachers, steep their minds in the old style, and learn their words from the masters of former time—who of them will fail to write poetry?

Fujiwara No Teika

Guide to the Composition of Poetry

Poetry

My poetry is like a stove in the summer or a fan in the winter. It runs against the popular tastes and has no practical use.

Matsuo Basho

Poetry

No poems can please for long or live that are written by water-drinkers.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Epistles, I, xix, 2

Poetry

Poetry comes fine-spun from a mind at peace.

Ovid [Publius Ovidius Naso]

Tristia, I, i, 39

Poetry

Poetry is certainly something more than good sense, but it must be good sense at all events; just as a palace is more than a house, but it must be a house, at least.

Samuel Coleridge

Poetry

Poetry is simply the most beautiful, impressive, and widely effective mode of saying things.

Matthew Arnold

Poetry

Poetry is something more philosophic and of graver import than history, since its statements are of the nature of universals, whereas those of history are singulars.

Aristotle

Poetics, 9

Poetry

Poetry is the art of uniting pleasure with truth.

Samuel Johnson

Poetry

Poetry is the mother tongue of mankind.

Johann Hamann

Poetry

Poetry is the presentment in musical form to the imagination, of noble grounds for the noble emotions.

John Ruskin

Poetry

Poetry is the rhythmical creation of beauty in words.

Edgar Allan Poe

Poetry

Poetry is the spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings…recollected in tranquillity.

William Wordsworth

Poetry

Poetry reminds man of his limitations of the richness and diversity of his existence.

John F. Kennedy

Poetry

Poets lose half the praise they should have got,

Could it be known what they discreetly blot.

Edmund Waller

Upon Roscommon's Translation of Horace, De Arte Poetica

Poetry

Poets that lasting marble seek

Must come in Latin or in Greek.

Edmund Waller

Of English Verse

Poetry

Some good, some so-so, and lots plain bad: that's how a book of poems is made, my friend.

Martial [Marcus Valerius Martialis]

Epigrams, I, 16

Poetry

Taught or untaught, we all scribble poetry.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Epistles, III, 117

Poetry

There are two ways of disliking poetry: one way is to dislike it, the other is to read Pope.

Oscar Wilde

Poetry

Thirty days hath November,

April, June, and September,

February hath twenty-eight alone,

And all the rest have thirty one.

Richard Grafton

Chronicles of England

Poetry

To have great poetry there must be great audiences, too.

Walt Whitman

Poetry

With me poetry has been not a purpose, but a passion; and the passions should be held in reverence; they must not they can not at will be excited, with an eye to the paltry compensations, or the more paltry commendations, of mankind.

Edgar Allan Poe

Poetry

You will not find poetry anywhere unless you bring some of it with you.

Joseph Joubert

Poets

Poets are born, not paid.

Addison Mizner

Poets

Poets tell many lies.

Solon

Poets

The works of the great poets have never yet been read by mankind, for only great poets can read them.

Henry David Thoreau

Poets

To a poet nothing can be useless.

Samuel Johnson

Point of View

But there are some people, nevertheless—and I am one of them—who think that the most practical and important thing about a man is still his view of the universe. We think that for a landlady considering a lodger, it is important to know his income, but still more important to know his philosophy. We think that for a general about to fight an enemy, it is important to know the enemy's numbers, but still more important to know the enemy's philosophy.

G. K. Chesterton, Heretics, introductory remarks, pp. 15-16 (1905).

Point of View

You have your Lebanon and its dilemma. I have my Lebanon and its beauty. Your Lebanon is an arena for men from the West and men from the East. My Lebanon is a flock of birds fluttering in the early morning as shepherds lead their sheep into the meadow and rising in the evening as farmers return from their fields and vineyards. You have your Lebanon and its people. I have my Lebanon and its people.

Kahlil Gibran, "You Have Your Lebanon and I Have My Lebanon," Mirrors of the Soul, trans. Joseph Sheban, pp. 30-31 (1965).

Policy

I have never had a policy. I have simply tried to do what seemed best each day, as each day came.

Abraham Lincoln

Policy

In a scheme of policy which is devised for a nation, we should not limit our views to its operation during a single year, or even for a short term of years. We should look at its operation for a considerable time, and in war as well as in peace.

Henry Clay.—The Clay Code, or Text-Book of Eloquence, a Collection of Axioms, Apothegms, Sentiments….Gathered from the Public Speeches of Henry Clay, ed. G. Vandenhoff, p. 95 (1844).Clay served in the House of Representatives 1811-1814, 1815-1821, and 1823-1825; he was Speaker every year except 1821. He was a senator 1806-1807, 1810-1811, 1831-1842, and 1849-1852.

Policy

In the tragic days of Mussolini, the trains in Italy ran on time as never before and I am told in their way, their horrible way, that the Nazi concentration-camp system in Germany was a model of horrible efficiency. The really basic thing in government is policy. Bad administration, to be sure, can destroy good policy, but good administration can never save bad policy.

Adlai E. Stevenson, governor of Illinois, speech before the Los Angeles Town Club, Los Angeles, California, September 11, 1952.—Speeches of Adlai Stevenson, p. 36 (1952).

Policy

There is an eternal dispute between those who imagine the world to suit their policy, and those who correct their policy to suit the realities of the world.

Attributed to Albert Sorel. Unverified.

Policy

There is no such thing as a fixed policy, because policy like all organic entities is always in the making.

Attributed to Lord Salisbury.—M. R. D. Foot, British Foreign Policy Since 1898, p. 9 (1956). Not verified in Salisbury's writings.

Policy

Therefore, once more: war is an instrument of policy; it must necessarily bear the character of policy; it must measure with policy's measure. The conduct of war, in its great outlines, is, therefore, politics itself, which takes up the sword in place of the pen, but does not on that account cease to think according to its own laws.

Karl von Clausewitz

On War, Book 6, Ch. 26, Arming the Nation.

Policy

You have despoiled churches. You have threatened every corporation and endowment in the country. You have examined into everybody's affairs. You have criticized every profession and vexed every trade. No one is certain of his property, and nobody knows what duties he may have to perform tomorrow. This is the policy of confiscation as compared with that of concurrent endowment.

Benjamin Disraeli, speech on the University Education Bill (Ireland), House of Commons, March 11, 1873.—Selected Speeches of the Late Right Honorable the Earl of Beaconsfield, ed. T. E. Kebbel, vol. 2, p. 390 (1882).

Policy

[Policy] is like a play in many acts, which unfolds inevitably once the curtain is raised. To declare then that the performance will not take place is an absurdity. The play will go on, either by means of the actors…or by means of the spectators who mount the stage…. Intelligent people never consider this the essence of the problem, however. For them it lies in the decision whether the curtain is to be raised at all, whether the spectators are to be assembled and in the intrinsic quality of the play.

Klemens Von Metternich, Aus Metternich's Nachgelassenen Papieren , vol. 8, p. 190 (1880), as quoted by Henry Kissinger A World Restored, chapter 4, p. 41 (1957).

Political Parties

Anyone can rat, but it takes a certain amount of ingenuity to re-rat.

Winston Churchill, remark in 1923 after rejoining the Conservatives, having left them earlier to join the Liberals.—Aa Kay Halle, Irrepressible Churchill, pp. 52-53 (1966). Other sources say this remark was made in 1924.

Political Parties

I am for "Peace, Retrenchment, and Reform," the watchword of the great Liberal Party thirty years ago.

John Bright

Speech, Birmingham, April 28, 1859.

Political Parties

I don't care to be involved in the crash-landing unless I can be in on the take-off.

Harold Stassen, comment on bipartisanship, attributed to him by Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg."Once again, it was the procedure of a hurried call to senators and a last-minute meeting to inform them of an impending development or of the execution of a policy, and not to consult on the formation of policy. Vandenberg then and thereafter insisted that real bipartisanship meant consultation in advance and not a perfunctory reading to legislators of an impending press announcement or policy statement…. Stassen's comment, the Senator used to Say, was such a good statement of the Republican case that he wished it were his."—The Private Papers of Senator Vandenberg, ed. Arthur H. Vandenberg, Jr., p. 230 (1952).

Political Parties

I have been thinking that I would make a proposition to my Republican friends…. That if they will stop telling lies about the Democrats, we will stop telling the truth about them.

Adlai E. Stevenson, governor of Illinois, campaign remark, Fresno, California, September 10, 1952.—John Bartlow Martin, Adlai Stevenson of Illinois, pp. 673-74 (1976).

Martin called this remark a favorite of Stevenson's, but it is not original with him. It was attributed to Senator Chauncey Depew, but in reverse, in John F. Parker's "If Elected, I Promise…," Stories and Gems of Wisdom by and About Politicians, p. 41 (1969): "If you will refrain from telling any lies about the Republican party, I'll promise not to tell the truth about the Democrats." Depew was a senator 1899-1911.

Political Parties

I have no Politics. I am for the Party that is out of Power, no matter which one it is. But I will give you my word that, in case of my appointment, I will not be a Republican; I will do my best to pull with you, and not embarrass you. In fact, my views on European affairs are so in accord with You, Mr. President, that I might almost be suspected of being a Democrat.

Will Rogers, letter to President Warren Harding offering to replace the American ambassador to the Court of St. James's in England.—Rogers, The Illiterate Digest, p. 172 (1924).

Political Parties

It is necessary to have party organization if we are to have effective and efficient government. The only difference between a mob and a trained army is organization, and the only difference between a disorganized country and one that has the advantage of a wise and sound government is fundamentally a question of organization.

Calvin Coolidge, address to women.—Eward Elwell Whiting, Calvin Coolidge, p. 154 (1924).

Political Parties

It's a d—- good thing to remember in politics to stick to your party and never attempt to buy the favor of your enemies at the expense of your friends.

Representative Joseph A. Cannon.—L. White Busby, Uncle Joe Cannon, p. 269 (1927)."Uncle Joe" Cannon, who was Speaker of the House from 1903-1911, served in the House for 46 years.

Political Parties

Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of the party.

Author unknown. Sentence devised to test the speed of the first typewriter, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, fall of 1867, during "an exciting political campaign."—Charles E. Weller, The Early History of the Typewriter, p. 21 (1918).Other sources credit Weller as author of the famous sentence, but he does not claim the credit in his book. The sentence is still in use, though it is often written as "their" party.

Political Parties

Of course, both major parties today seek to serve the national interest. They would do so in order to obtain the broadest base of support, if for no nobler reason. But when party and officeholder differ as to how the national interest is to be served, we must place first the responsibility we owe not to our party or even to our constituents but to our individual consciences.

Senator John F. Kennedy, Profiles in Courage, p. 15 (1956).

Political Parties

Sometimes party loyalty asks too much.

Senator John F. Kennedy.—Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr., A Thousand Days: John F Kennedy in the 'White House, p. 26 (1979).

Political Parties

The President of the United States of necessity owes his election to office to the suffrage and zealous labors of a political party, the members of which cherish with ardor and regard as of essential importance the principles of their party organization; but he should strive to be always mindful of the fact that he serves his party best who serves the country best.

President Rutherford B. Hayes, inaugural address, March 5, 1877.—Inaugural Addresses of the Presidents of the United States from George Washington, 1789, to Richard Milhous Nixon, 1973, p. 138 (1974). House Doc. 93-208.

Political Parties

The two great political parties of the nation have existed for the purpose, each in accordance with its own principles, of undertaking to serve the interests of the whole nation. Their members of the Congress are chosen with that great end in view.

Vice President Calvin Coolidge, Memorial Day address, Northampton, Massachusetts, May 30, 1923.—Coolidge, The Price of Freedom, p. 348 (1925).

Political Parties

The two parties which divide the state, the party of Conservatism and that of Innovation, are very old, and have disputed the possession of the world ever since it was made.

Ralph Waldo Emerson, "The Conservative," lecture delivered at the Masonic Temple, Boston, Massachusetts, December 9, 1841.—Nature, Addresses and Lectures (vol. 3 of The Works of Ralph Waldo Emerson), p. 273 (1906).

Political Parties

There are but two parties; there never have been but two parties…founded in the radical question, whether PEOPLE, or PROPERTY, shall govern? Democracy implies a government by the people….Aristocracy implies a government of the rich…and in these words are contained the sum of party distinction.

Thomas Benton

Speech, Senate; Niles Register, August 29, 1835.

Political Parties

There can be but two great political parties in this country.

Senator Stephen A. Douglas, speech delivered at Bloomington, Illinois, July 16, 1858.—Complete Works of Abraham Lincoln, new and enl. ed., ed. John G. Nicolay and John Hay, vol. 3, p. 66 (1905).

Political Parties

There is no Democratic or Republican way of cleaning the streets.

Attributed to Fiorello La Guardia, mayor of New York City, by Murray W Stand.—Charles Garrett, The La Guardia Years, Machine and Reform Politics in New York City, p. 274 (1961).

Political Parties

We're the party that wants to see an America in which people can still get rich.

President Ronald Reagan, remarks at a Republican congressional dinner saluting him, Washington, D.C., May 4, 1982.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Ronald Reagan, 1982, p. 558.

Political Parties

You cannot choose between party government and Parliamentary government. I say you can have no Parliamentary government if you have no party government; and therefore when gentlemen denounce party government, they strike at the scheme of government which, in my opinion, has made this country great, and which, I hope, will keep it great.

Benjamin Disraeli, speech in the House of Commons, August 30, 1848.—Selected Speeches of the Late Right Honorable the Earl of Beaconsfield, ed. T. E. Kebbel, vol. 2, p. 455 (1882).The editor notes, p. 415, "this particular speech enjoys a special and superlative distinction above all its fellows: as I am authorized to state that, in Mr. Disraeli's own opinion, it made him leader of the Conservative Party in the House of Commons."

Politicians

"Don't teach my boy poetry," an English mother recently wrote the Provost of Harrow. "Don't teach my boy poetry; he is going to stand for Parliament." Well, perhaps she was right—but if more politicians knew poetry, and more poets knew politics, I am convinced the world would be a little better place to live on this Commencement Day of 1956.

Senator John F. Kennedy, address to the annual meeting of the Harvard Alumni Association, Cambridge, Massachusetts, June 14, 1956.—Text, pp. 11-12.

Politicians

A garden, you know, is a very usual refuge of a disappointed politician. Accordingly, I have purchased a few acres about nine miles from town, have built a house, and am cultivating a garden.

Alexander Hamilton, letter to Charles Cotesworth Pinckney, December 29, 1802.—The Works of Alexander Hamilton, ed. John C. Hamilton, vol. 6, p. 551 (1851).

Politicians

An honest politician is one who, when he is bought, will stay bought.

Simon Cameron

Politicians

England is the Mother of Parliaments.

John Bright

Speech, Birmingham, January 18, 1865.

Politicians

He has been called a mediocre man; but this is unwarranted flattery. He was a politician of monumental littleness.

Theodore Roosevelt, writing of John Tyler, Thomas Hart Benton, chapter 11, p. 239 (1897, reprinted 1968).

Politicians

I don't believe in labels. I want to do the best I can, all the time. I want to be progressive without getting both feet off the ground at the same time. I want to be prudent without having my mind closed to anything that is new or different. I have often said that I was proud that I was a free man first and an American second, and a public servant third and a Democrat fourth, in that order and I guess as a Democrat, if I had to take—place a label on myself, I would want to be a progressive who is prudent.

President Lyndon B. Johnson, television and radio interview, March 15, 1964.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Lyndon B. Johnson, 1963-64, book 1, p. 368.

Politicians

I think politicians and movie actors and movie executives are similar in more ways than they're different. There is an egocentric quality about both; there is a very sensitive awareness of the public attitude, because you live or die on public favor or disfavor. There is the desire for publicity and for acclaim, because, again, that's part of your life…. And in a strange and bizarre way, when movie actors come to Washington, they're absolutely fascinated by the politicians. And when the politicians go to Hollywood, they're absolutely fascinated by the movie stars. It's a kind of reciprocity of affection by people who both recognize in a sense they're in the same racket.

Jack Valenti, special assistant to President Lyndon Johnson, interview on National Public Radio, December 13, 1974. This excerpt was printed in The Washingtonian, March 1975, p. 162.

Politicians

I was really too honest a man to be a politician and live.

Attributed to Socrates, but unverified in his writings or in interpretive writings about him. Possibly this is an interpretation of a passage from Plato, The Trial and Death of Socrates she Apology), trans. F. J. Church, p. 61 (1880, reprinted 1972): "I do not venture to come forward in the assembly, and take part in public councils…. For, Athenians, it is quite certain that if I had attempted to take part in politics, I should have perished at once and long ago, without doing any good either to you or to myself. And do not be vexed with me for telling the truth."

Politicians

I would he were better, I would he were worse.

Attributed to Senator Joseph Weldon Bailey. Unverified. Said to have been applied to President Theodore Roosevelt during debate on the Railroad Rate Bill of 1906.

Politicians

I'd rather keep my promises to other politicians than to God. God, at least, has a degree of forgiveness.

Author unknown.—The Washington Post, June 9, 1978, p. C1, quoting a "veteran Virginia Democrat."

Politicians

I'm not a politician and my other habits are good. I've no enemys to reward, nor friends to sponge. But I'm a Union man.

Artemus Ward (Charles Farrar Browne), Fourth of July oration delivered at Weathersfield, Connecticut, July 4, 1859.—The Complete Works of Artemus Ward, pp. 175-76 (1898). Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, 15th ed., p. 616, footnote 2 (1980), says the First sentence was a favorite quotation of John F. Kennedy's.

Politicians

I'm proud that I'm a politician. A politician is a man who understands government, and it takes a politician to run a government. A statesman is a politician who's been dead 10 or 15 years.

Harry S. Truman, impromptu remarks before the Reciprocity Club, Washington, D.C., April 11, 1958, as reported by the New York World-Telegram and Sun, April 12, 1958, p. 4.

Politicians

In my youth, I, too, entertained some illusions; but I soon recovered from them. The great orators who rule the assemblies by the brilliancy of their eloquence are in general men of the most mediocre political talents: they should not be opposed in their own way; for they have always more noisy words at command than you. Their eloquence should be opposed by a serious and logical argument; their strength lies in vagueness; they should be brought back to the reality of facts; practical arguments destroy them. In the council, there were men possessed of much more eloquence than I was: I always defeated them by this simple argument—two and two make four

Napoleon, dictated to Count Montholon to be passed on to Napoleon's son.—Charles-Tristan de Montholon, History of the Captivity of Napoleon at St. Helena, vol. 3, p. 187 (1847).

Politicians

Man is by nature a political animal.

Aristotle, Politics, book 1, chapter 2.—Aristotle's Politics and Poetics, trans. Benjamin Jowett and Thomas Twining, p. 5 (1957). Jowett translated Politics. This statement appears again in book 3, chapter 6, p. 68.

Politicians

Many an office holder is sworn in one year and sworn at the next.

Marjorie Mahoney

Politicians

One of the mysteries of American Politics is how a candidate can toss his hat in the ring and still go on talking through it.

Franklin P. Jones

Politicians

POLITICIAN, n. An eel in the fundamental mud upon which the superstructure of organized society is reared. When he wriggles he mistakes the agitation of his tail for the trembling of the edifice. As compared with the statesman, he suffers the disadvantage of being alive.

Ambrose Bierce, The Devil's Dictionary, p. 259 (1948). Originally published in 1906 as The Cynic's Word Book.

Politicians

Politicians neither love nor hate. Interest, not sentiment, directs them.

Philip Dormer Stanhope,

Fourth Earl of Chesterfield

The Letters of Lord Chesterfield, 1892, 900.

Politicians

Some of the politicians in this country, in their feverish search for group acceptance, are ready to endorse tumultuous confrontation as a substitute for debate, and the most illogical and unfitting extensions of the Bill of Rights as protections for psychotic and criminal elements in our society…. We have seen all too clearly that there are men—now in power in this country—who do not represent authority, who cannot cope with tradition, and who believe that the people of America are ready to support revolution as long as it is done with a cultured voice and a handsome profile.

Vice President Spiro T. Agnew, address to the American Retail Federation, Washington, D.C., May 4, 1970.—John R. Coyne, Jr., The Impudent Snobs, p. 324 (1972).

Politicians

The world is weary of statesmen whom democracy has degraded into politicians.

Benjamin Disraeli (Earl of Beaconsfield) (1804-1881)

The Infernal Marriage (1834)

Politicians

There is no such thing as a nonpolitical speech by a politician.

Vice President Richard M. Nixon, address to Radio-Television Executives Society, New York City, September 14, 1955, as reported by The Christian Science Monitor September 15, 1955, p. 6.This is not in the press release of the speech.

Politicians

Today's politicians are at a disadvantage. They can't brag about coming from a humble log cabin. In the current market, a well-made log cabin goes for about $150,000.

Robert Orben

Politicians

Under every stone lurks a politician.

Aristophanes

Thesmophoriazusae, 530

Politicians

Where else but in Washington D.C. would they call the department in charge of everything outdoors, the Department of the Interior.

Ronald Reagan

Politicians

Whoever could make two ears of corn…grow upon a spot of ground where only one grew before, would deserve better of mankind…than the whole race of politicians put together.

Jonathan Swift

Politicians

You have all the characteristics of a poplular politician: a horrible voice, bad breeding, and a vulgar manner.

Aristophanes

Knights, 217

Politicians

You have to pursue the ideals of a Joan of Arc with the political prowess of an Adam Clayton Powell. Whatever you say about Joan, her purpose was noble. And whatever you say about Adam, his politics is effective; it gets things done he wants done.

Bill D. Moyers, remarks, conference on the returned Peace Corps volunteer, Washington, D.C., March 5-7, 1965.—Citizen in a Time of Change: The Returned Peace Cons Volunteer, Report of the Conference, p. 69 (1965).

Politicians

[Politicians] are the same all over. They promise to build a bridge even where there is no river.

Nikita S. Khrushchev, impromptu remark made during a visit to Belgrade, Yugoslavia, August 21, 1963, as reported by the New York Herald Tribune, August 22, 1963, p. 16.

Politicians

[Recipe for political success:] If a politician during a campaign finds it necessary to resort to flattery, he should spread it on, not in thin layers, but with a trowel, or better yet, a shovel. Politicians should not forget that voters never grow weary of illusory promises.

Politicians should ever remember that the electorate suspects and distrusts men of superb intellect, calmness, and serenity. And, finally, the politician must always tell people what they want to hear.

Attributed to Senator Henry Fountain Ashurst.—John Rustgard, The Problem of Poverty, 2d ed., pp. 211-12 (1936).

Politicians

[Trying to obtain information from Mr. Mitchell was] Like trying to nail a drop of water to the wall.

Representative George E. Danielson, remark referring to former Attorney General John N. Mitchell's testimony during the Watergate hearings held by the House Judiciary Committee, Washington, D.C., July 10, 1974.—The New York Times, July 11, 1974, p. 14.

Politics

A political career brings out the basest qualities in human nature.

Lord Bryce.—Owen Wister, Roosevelt: The Story of a Friendship, p. 66 (1930). This remark was made during a conversation with Wister in London in 1921.

Politics

A tyrant must put on the appearance of uncommon devotion to religion. Subjects are less apprehensive of illegal treatment from a ruler whom they consider godfearing and pious. On the other hand, they do less easily move against him, believing that he has the gods on his side.

Aristotle

Politics, 1.

Politics

All political power is primarily an illusion…. Illusion, mirrors and blue smoke, beautiful blue smoke rolling over the surface of highly polished mirrors, first a thin veil of blue smoke, then a thick cloud that suddenly dissolves into wisps of blue smoke, the mirrors catching it all, bouncing it back and forth.

Jimmy Breslin, How the Good Guys Finally Won, Notes from an Impeachment Summer, pp. 33-34 (1975).The phrase is usually quoted as "blue smoke and mirrors."

Politics

An ambassador is an honest man sent to lie and intrigue abroad for the benefit of his country.

Sir Henry Wotton

Politics

And here with grief it must be confessed, that, however great and extensive are the evils that are produced by monarchies and courts, by the imposture of priests and the iniquity of criminal laws, all these are imbecile and impotent, compared with the evils that arise out of the established administration of property.

William Godwin (1756-1836)

An Inquiry Concerning Political Justice

and Its Influence on General Virtue and Happiness (1793),

Bk. VIII, ch. 2

Politics

Be assured that it is pamphlet-reading that is destined to work the great necessary moral and political changes among mankind.

Richard Carlile

The Republican (weekly journal), V. 279, 1822.

Politics

Every time I fill a vacant office I make ten malcontents and one ingrate.

Molière

Siecle de Louis Quatorz

Politics

He who is unable to live in society, or who has no need because he is sufficient for himself, must be either a beast or a god; he is no part of a state.

Aristotle

Politics, 1.

Politics

If I could not go to heaven but with a party (political) I would not go at all.

Thomas Jefferson

Politics

If mine were a solitary voice, raised amid the din or arms and the clamours of a venal press…

John Bright

House of Commons, December 22, 1854.

Politics

Inferiors revolt in order that they may be equal, and equals that they may be superior. Such is the state of mind which creates revolutions.

Aristotle

Politics, 5.

Politics

It has been discovered that the best way to insure implicit obedience is to commence tyranny in the nursery.

Benjamin Disraeli (Earl of Beaconsfield) (1804-1881)

Speeches, House of Commons, June 15, 1874

Politics

It is a very easy thing to devise good laws; the difficulty is to make them effective. The great mistake is that of looking upon men as virtuous, or thinking that they can be made so by laws; and consequently the greatest art of a politician is to render vices serviceable to the cause of virtue.

Henry St. John Bolingbroke

Politics

It is characteristic of man that he alone has any sense of good and evil, or just and unjust, and the like, and the association of living things who have this sense makes a family and a state.

Aristotle

Politics, 1.

Politics

It is in the power of the mores, rather than in the hands of the legislator, that this terrible weapon of infamy rests. This type of civil excommunication, which deprives the victim of all consideration, which severs all the ties which bind him to his fellow citizens, which isolates him in the midst of society. The purer and more untouched the customs are, the greater the force of infamy.

Jacques Pierre Brissot

Theorie des lois criminelles, 1780.

Politics

Party honesty is party expedience.

Grover Cleveland

Politics

People who think the mighty in Washington can be persuaded, or corrupted, if you will, by anything less than votes just don't understand what it's all about and never will. They don't know what Washington juice is made of.

George E. Allen, Presidents Who Have Known Me, chapter 16, p. 219 (1950).

Allen was a longtime personal aide to President Harry Truman and was director of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation 1946-1947.

Politics

Politics and the pulpit are terms that have little agreement.

Edmund Burke

Politics

Politics and the pulpit are terms that have little agreement. No sound ought to be heard in the church but the healing voice of Christian charity. The cause of civil liberty and civil government gains as little as that of religion by this confusion of duties. Those who quit their proper character to assume what does not belong to them are, for the greater part, ignorant both of the character they leave and of the character they assume.

Edmund Burke, "Reflections on the Revolution in France," 1790, The Works of the Right Honorable Edmund Burke, vol. 3, p. 246 (1899).

Politics

Politics is a fascinating game, because politics is government. It is the art of government.

Harry S Truman.—William Hillman, Mr President: The First Publication from the Personal Diaries, Private Letters, Papers and Revealing Interviews of Harry S. Truman, p. 198 (1952).

Politics

Politics is not an exact science.

(Die Politik ist keine exakte Wissenschaft.)

Otto Von Bismarck, Prussian Chamber, December 18, 1863.—The Oxford Dictionary of Quotations, 3d ed., p. 84 (1979).

Politics

Politics is perhaps the only profession for which no preparation is thought necessary.

Robert Louis Stevenson, "Yoshida-Torajiro," Familiar Studies of Men and Books, p. 175 (1902).

Politics

Politics is the conduct of public affairs for private advantage.

Ambrose Bierce

The Devil's Dictionary.

Politics

Politics is the doctrine of the possible, the attainable.

Otto von Bismarck-Schoenhausen

N. Y. Time, August 11, 1957.

Politics

Politics is the practical exercise of the art of self-government, and somebody must attend to it if we are to have self-government; somebody must study it, and learn the art, and exercise patience and sympathy and skill to bring the multitude of opinions and wishes of self-governing people into such order that some prevailing opinion may be expressed and peaceably accepted. Otherwise, confusion will result either in dictatorship or anarchy. The principal ground of reproach against any American citizen should be that he is not a politician. Everyone ought to be, as Lincoln was.

Elihu Root, "Lincoln as a Leader of Men," Men and Policies, Addresses by Elihu Root, ed. Robert Bacon and James B. Scott, p. 75 (1924).

Politics

Politics makes strange bed-fellows.

Charles Dudley Warner, My Summer in a Garden, 15th week, p. 131 (1871).

Politics

Politics ought to be the part-time profession of every citizen who would protect the rights and privileges of free people and who would preserve what is good and fruitful in our national heritage.

President Dwight D. Eisenhower, address recorded for the Republican Lincoln Day dinners, January 28, 1954.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Dwight D. Eisenhower, 1954, p. 219.

Politics

Practical politics consists in ignoring facts.

Henry Adams, The Education of Henry Adams, ed. Ernest Samuels, chapter 24, p. 373 (1973). Originally published in 1906.He was the son of Charles Francis Adams, the grandson of John Quincy Adams, and the great-grandson of John Adams.

Politics

Revolutions break out when opposite parties, the rich and the poor, are equally balanced, and there is little or nothing between them; for, if either party were manifestly superior, the other would not risk an attack.

Aristotle

Politics, 5.

Politics

The aim of every political association is the preservation of the natural and imprescriptible rights of man. These rights are liberty, property, security, and resistance to oppression.

France (Official and semi-official)

Declarations of the Rights of Man and Citizen, National Assembly (1789), Art. 2

Politics

The difference between a politician and a statesman is: a politician thinks of the next election and a statesman thinks of the next generation.

James Freeman Clarke

Politics

The field of politics always presents the same struggle. There are the Right and the Left, and in the middle is the Swamp. The swamp is made up of know-nothings, of them who are without ideas, of them who are always with the majority.

August Bebel

Address, Social-Democratic Party Congress, 1903.

Politics

The most practical kind of politics is the politics of decency.

Vice President Theodore Roosevelt, remarks to Harvard and Yale undergraduates invited to Sagamore Hill, Oyster Bay, Long Island, June 1901.—Hermann Hagedorn, The Roosevelt Family of Sagamore Hill, p. 112 (1954).

Politics

The only way you can do that [decrease taxes, balance the budget, and increase military spending] is with mirrors, and that's what it would take.

Representative John B. Anderson, remarks at GOP Presidential Forum, Des Moines, Iowa, January 5, 1980, as reported by the Des Moines Sunday Register; January 6, 1980, p. 4A.

Politics

The pendulum will swing back.

Representative Joseph A. Cannon, maxim indicating that in life and politics the things detested today may be praised tomorrow. Quoted in a tribute to Cannon on his retirement, The Sun, Baltimore, Maryland, March 4, 1923.—Congressional Record, March 4, 1923, vol. 64, p. 5714."Uncle Joe" Cannon, who was Speaker of the House 1903-1911, served in the House for 46 years.

Politics

The political activity prevailing in the United States is something one could never understand unless one had seen it. No sooner do you set foot on American soil than you find yourself in a sort of tumult; a confused clamor rises on every side, and a thousand voices are heard at once, each expressing some social requirements. All around you everything is on the move: here the people of a district are assembled to discuss the possibility of building a church; there they are busy choosing a representative; further on, the delegates of a district are hurrying to town to consult about some local improvements; elsewhere it's the village farmers who have left their furrows to discuss the plan for a road or a school.

Alexis de Tocqueville, Democracy in America, ed. J. P. Mayer, trans. George Lawrence, vol. 1, part 2, chapter 6, p. 242 (1969). Originally published in 1835-1840.

Politics

The proletariat seizes the political power of the State and transforms the means of production into State property. But in doing this it abolishes itself as the proletariat, it ends all class distinctions and class antagonisms, it abolishes also the State as a State….

The first act by which the State really becomes representative of society as a whole—the taking possession of the means of production in the name of society—is at the same time its last independent act as a State. The interference of the State in social relations becomes superfluous in one domain after another, and then dies out of itself…. The State is not "abolished," it withers away.

Friedrich Engels (1820-1895)

Anti-Duhring (1878)

Politics

The real difference between democracy and oligarchy is poverty and wealth. Wherever men rule by reason of their wealth, whether they be few or many, that is an oligarchy, and where the poor rule, that is a democracy.

Aristotle

Politics, 3.

Politics

The whole aim of practical politics is to keep the populace alarmed (and hence clamorous to be led to safety) by menacing it with an endless series of hobgoblins, all of them imaginary.

H. L. Mencken, "Women as Outlaws," A Mencken Chrestomathy, p. 29 (1949). This essay was first published in The Smart Set, December 1921.

Politics

The whole art of politics consists in directing rationally the irrationalities of men.

Reinhold Niebuhr.—This statement is attributed to him in his obituary in The New York Times, June 2, 1971, p. 45. Unverified.

Politics

They are wrong who think that politics is like an ocean voyage or a military campaign, something to be done with some particular end in view, something which leaves off as soon as that end is reached. It is not a public chore, to be got over with. It is a way of life. It is the life of a domesticated political and social creature who is born with a love for public life, with a desire for honor, with a feeling for his fellows; and it lasts as long as need be.

Attributed to Plutarch.—The Great Quotations, ed. George Seldes, p. 570 (1966). Unverified.

Politics

This country has gotten where it is in spite of politics, not by the aid of it.

Will Rogers

Politics

Thus, then, on the night of the tenth of May, at the outset of this mighty battle, I acquired the chief power in the State, which henceforth I wielded in ever-growing measure for five years and three months of world war, at the end of which time, all our enemies having surrendered unconditionally or being about to do so, I was immediately dismissed by the British electorate from all further conduct of their affairs.

Winston Churchill, The Gathering Storm (vol. 1 of The Second World War), pp. 666-67 (1948). However, he was prime minister again, 1951-1955.

Politics

To put political power in the hands of men embittered and degraded by poverty is to tie firebrands to foxes and turn them loose amid the standing corn.

Henry George (1839-1897)

Progress and Poverty (1879), Bk. VI, ch. X

Politics

Until you've been in politics

you've never really been alive

it's rough and sometimes it's

dirty and it's always hard

work and tedious details

But, it's the only sport for grownups—all other

games are for kids.

—Heinlein

Author unknown.

Framed saying on the mantel of Senator

John C. Culver's private office, 1978.

—Elizabeth Drew, "A Reporter at Large

(Senator John C. Culver—part I),"

The New Yorker September 11, 1978, p. 60.

Disclaimed by Robert A. Heinlein,

noted science fiction author.

Politics

When a man assumes a public trust, he should consider himself as public property.

Thomas Jefferson

Politics

Who put up that cage?

Who hung it up with bars, doors?

Why do those on the inside want to get out?

Why do those outside want to get in?

What is this crying inside and out all the time?

What is this endless, useless beating of baffled wings at these bars, doors, this cage?

Carl Sandburg, "Money, Politics, Love and Glory," The Complete Poems of Carl Sandburg, rev. and expanded ed., p. 394 (1970).

Ponder

When in charge ponder

When in trouble delegate

When in doubt mumble.

Author Unknown

Population

Sometimes I think we're alone in the universe, and sometimes I think that we're not. In either case, the idea is staggering.

Arthur C. Clarke

Positive Thinking

For myself I am an optimist—it does not seem to be much use being anything else.

Prime Minister Winston Churchill, speech, Lord Mayor's banquet, London, November 9, 1954.—Winston S. Churchill: His Complete Speeches, 1897-1963, ed. Robert Rhodes James, vol. 8, pp. 8603-4 (1974).

Positive Thinking

If you think you are beaten, you are;

If you think you dare not, you don't.

If you'd like to win, but think you can't,

It's almost a cinch you won't.

If you think you'll lose, you're lost,

For out in the world we find

Success begins with a fellow's will;

It's all in the state of mind.

If you think you're outclassed, you are;

You've got to think high to rise.

You've got to be sure of yourself before

You can ever win a prize.

Life's battles don't always go

To the stronger or faster man;

But soon or late the man who wins

Is the one who thinks he can.

Walter D. Wintle, "The Man Who Thinks He Can."—Poems That Live Forever comp. Hazel Felleman, p. 310 (1965).

Positive Thinking

Keep your face to the sunshine and you cannot see the shadow.

Attributed to Helen Keller, inscription in autograph album of Lafayette E. Cornwell, Yonkers, New York.—Walter Fogg, One Thousand Sayings of History, p. 17 (1929).While this sentence has been attributed to Keller several times, Keller experts at the American Federation for the Blind in New York City have never been able to find it.

Positive Thinking

Look up and not down;

Look forward and not back;

Look out and not in;

Lend a Hand.

Edward Everett Hale, motto of the Lend a Hand Society.The first Lend a Hand Club was founded in 1871, followed by the incorporation of a league of clubs, the Lend a Hand Society, in 1891. Edward E. Hale, who founded the first club in Boston, Massachusetts, later became chaplain to the United States Senate.

Positive Thinking

More worship the rising that the setting sun.

Pompey (Gnaeus Pompeius)

From Plutarch, Lives, Pompey, sec. 14

Possessions

Things are only worth what one makes them worth.

Jean-Baptiste Molière

Postal Service

Carrier of news and knowledge

Instrument of trade and industry

Promoter of mutual acquaintance

Of peace and of goodwill

Among men and nations

Messenger of sympathy and love

Servant of parted friends

Consoler of the lonely

Bond of the scattered family

Enlarger of the common life

Charles W. Eliot, revised by Woodrow Wilson, inscriptions on the main Post Office, Washington, D.C.—Inscriptions Written by Charles William Eliot, p. 40 (1934).

In 1877 Charles W. Eliot, president of Harvard University 1869-1909, was asked to provide an inscription for a Civil War monument. "The brevity, cogency, and lyric quality of what he wrote…won wide acclaim and…he was constantly asked to provide inscriptions" until his death in 1926. He achieved considerable "success in this difficult form of composition…. it meant not only the happy exercise of his gift for concise and descriptive phrasing, but also appealed to his experience as a mathematician" because the words had to fit particular, sometimes restrictive spaces.

"In 1911, at the close of a long day's work at Northeast Harbor, Maine, Mr. Eliot went out on his boat in company with two or three friends. Presently he produced a scrap of paper and an infinitesimal pencil and began to write. When he had finished, he read aloud the original draft of the two inscriptions for the Post Office at Washington. Possibly he had meditated these inscriptions for some time, but it appeared to those present like an inspiration of the moment. In time they came, unsigned, to the notice of President Wilson who made a few alterations and consigned the inscriptions to the stonecutters. Only later did he learn the name of the author. "—Ibid., Foreword by Grace Eliot Dudley, pp. 7, 9.

Postal Service

It is said that as many days as there are in the whole journey, So many are the men and horses that stand along the road, each horse and man at the interval of a day's journey; and these are stayed neither by snow nor rain nor heat nor darkness from accomplishing their appointed course with all speed.

Herodotus, Herodotus, trans. A. D. Godley, vol. 4, book 8, verse 98, pp. 96-97 (1924).A paraphrase of this motto—"Neither snow, nor rain, nor heat, nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds"—is carved over the entrance to the central post office building in New York City. The method of carrying messages Herodotus describes was a Persian invention and enabled the messengers to travel swiftly. In this fashion King Xerxes sent a message home to Persia that the Greeks had destroyed his fleet off Salamis in 480 B.c.—George Stimpson, A Book About a Thousand Things, pp. 69-70 (1946).

Posterity

For we are your offspring.

Cleanthes

Hymn to Zeus, l. 4

Posterity

From Zeus let us begin, whom we mortals never leave unnamed; full of Zeus are all streets and all gathering places of men, and full are the sea and harbors. Everywhere we all have need of Zeus. For we are also his offspring.

Aratus

Phaenomena, sec. 1

Posterity

He plants trees to benefit another generation.

Caecilius Statius Synephebi.

Quoted by Cicero in De Senectute VII

Posterity

Your descendants shall gather your fruits.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Elogues, IX, 50

Potential

Compared to what we ought to be, we are only half awake. We are making use of only a small part of our physical and mental resources. Stating the thing broadly, the human individual thus lives far within his limits. He possesses power of various sorts which he habitually fails to use.

William James

Potential

The Lord doesn't always choose men for what they are, but for what they can become.

Author Unknown

Potential

We know what we are, but know not what we may be.

William Shakespeare

Hamlet, IV, v, 43

Poverty

25. Poverty, when measured by the natural purpose of life, is great wealth, but unlimited wealth is great poverty.

Epicurus (341-270 B.C.)

Fragments

Poverty

…and place the real disgrace of poverty not in owning to the fact but in declining to struggle against it.

Thucydides

Poverty

Barefaced poverty drove me to writing verses.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Epistles, II, ii, 51

Poverty

Every stable government in history has depended on the resignation of the poor to being poor.

Felicite de Lamennais

Poverty

For herein Fortune shows herself more kind

Than is her custom: it is still her use

To let the wretched man outlive his wealth,

To view with hollow eye and wrinkled brow

An age of poverty.

William Shakespeare

The Merchant of Venice, IV, i, 268

Poverty

Give me your tired, your poor,

Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,

The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.

Send these, the homeless, the tempest-tossed to me,

I lift my lamp beside the golden door.

Emma Lazarus

Poverty

He is so poor that he could not keep a dog.

Longus

Daphnis and Chloe, proem, ch. 15

Poverty

How can you trust people who are poor and own no property?….Inequality of property will exist as long as liberty exists.

Alexander Hamilton

Poverty

Is there for honest poverty,

That hangs his head, and a' that?

The coward slave, we pass him by,

We daur be puir, for a' that!

Robert Burns

Is There for Honest Poverty, 1795.

Poverty

It is easy enough to tell the poor to accept their poverty as God's will when you yourself have warm clothes and plenty of food and medical care and a roof over your head and no worry about the rent. But if you want them to believe you—try to share some of their poverty and see if you can accept it as God's will yourself!

Thomas Merton, Seeds of Contemplation, chapter 14, p. 107 (1949).

Poverty

It is not easy for men to rise whose qualities are thwarted by poverty.

Decimus Junius Juvenal

Satires, III, 164

Poverty

It is not the man who has too little, but the man who craves more, that is poor.

Lucius Annaeus Seneca

Epistles, 2, 2

Poverty

Not he who has little, but he who wishes more, is poor.

Seneca

Poverty

Of all the preposterous assumptions of humanity over humanity, nothing exceeds most of the criticisms made on the habits of the poor by the well-housed, well-warmed, and well-fed.

Herman Melville

Poverty

Poverty has this defect: it prompts a man to evil deeds.

Euripides (485-406 B.C.)

Electra (415 B.C.)

Poverty

Poverty is an anomaly to rich people; it is very difficult to make out why people who want dinner do not ring the bell.

Walter Bagehot

Poverty

Poverty is no disgrace to a man, but it is confoundedly inconvenient.

Sydney Smith

Poverty

Poverty is not dishonorable in itself, but only when it comes from idleness, intemperance, extravagance, and folly.

Plutarch

Poverty

Poverty…has no sharper pang than this, that it makes men ridiculous.

Juvenal

Poverty

The leaders of the French Revolution excited the poor against the rich; this made the rich poor, but it never made the poor rich.

Fisher Ames

Poverty

The poor in Resurrection City have come to Washington to show that the poor in America are sick, dirty, disorganized, and powerless—and they are criticized daily for being sick, dirty, disorganized, and powerless.

Calvin Trillin, "U.S. Journal: Resurrection City," The New Yorker June 15, 1968, p. 71.

Poverty

The poor you always have with you.

Jesus Christ (John 12:8)

Poverty

This administration today, here and now, declares unconditional war on poverty in America. I urge this Congress and all Americans to join with me in that effort.

President Lyndon B. Johnson, State of the Union address, delivered to a joint session of Congress, January 8, 1964.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Lyndon B. Johnson, 1963-64, book 1, p. 114.

Poverty

This association of poverty with progress is the great enigma of our times. It is the central fact from which spring industrial, social, and political difficulties that perplex the world, and with which statesmanship and philanthropy and education grapple in vain. . . It is the riddle which the Sphinx of Fate puts to our civilization, and which not to answer is to be destroyed.

Henry George (1839-1897)

Progress and Poverty (1879)

Poverty

We say that poverty is the sister of beggary.

Aristophanes

Plutus, 549

Poverty

What is the use of being kind to a poor man?

Marcus Tullius Cicero

Poverty

What though on hamely fare we dine,

Wear hoddin-grey and a' that;

Gi'e fools their silks, and knaves their wine—

A man's a man for a' that,

Their tinsel show and a' that,

The honest man, though ne'er sae puir,

Is king o' men for a' that.

Robert Burns

Is There for Honest Poverty, 1795.

Poverty

Whoever cultivates the golden mean avoids both the poverty of a hovel and the envy of a palace.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Odes, II, x, 5

Poverty

You never find people laboring to convince you that you may live very happily upon a plentiful income.

Samuel Johnson

Power

1. Of all existing things some are in our power, and others are not in our power. In our power are thought, impulse, will to get and will to avoid….Things not in our power include the body, property, reputation, office, and, in a word, everything which is not our own doing.

Epictetus (c. 50-120 A.D.)

The Manual of Epictetus (The Encheiridion)

Power

They that govern the most make the least noise.

John Selden

Table Talk. Power

Power

A power has risen up in the government greater than the people themselves, consisting of many and various powerful interests, combined in one mass, and held together by the cohesive power of the vase surplus in banks.

John C. Calhoun

Speech, May 27, 1836.

Power

After this time I surpassed all others in authority, but I had no more power than the others who were also my colleagues in office.

Augustus Caesar

Res Gestae, 34

Power

All our power lies in both mind and body; we employ the mind to rule, the body rather to serve; the one we have in common with the Gods, the other with the brutes.

Sallust [Gaius Sallustius Crispus]

The War with Catiline, 1

Power

All persons possessing a portion of power ought to be strongly and awfully impressed with an idea that they act in trust, and that they are to account for their conduct in that trust to the one great Master, Author, and Founder of society.

Edmund Burke

Reflections on the Revolution in France, 1790.

Power

All political questions, all matters of right, are at bottom only questions of might.

August Bebel

Speech, Reichstag, July 3, 1871.

Power

An honest private man often grows cruel and abandoned when converted into an absolute prince. Give a man power of doing what he pleases with impunity, you extinguish his fear, and consequently overturn in him one of the great pillars of morality.

Joseph Addison

The Spectator.

Power

Anyone entrusted with power will abuse it if not also animated with the love of truth and virtue, no matter whether he be a prince, or one of the people.

Jean de la Fontaine

Power

As it must not, so genius can not be lawless; for it is even this that constitutes its genius—the power of acting creatively under laws of its own origination.

Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1772-1834)

Lectures and Notes on Shakespeare and Other Dramatists (published 1853)

Power

As wealth is power, so all power must infallibly draw wealth to itself by some means or other.

Edmund Burke

Commons, February 11, 1780.

Power

…the sense of musical delight, with the power of producing it, is a gift of imagination; and this together with the power of reducing multitude into unity of effect, and modifying a series of thoughts by some one predominant thought or feeling, may be cultivated and improved, but can never be learned. It is in these that poeta nascitur do not fit.

Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1772-1834)

Biographia Literaria (1817)

Power

Authority intoxicates,

And makes mere sots of magistrates;

The fumes of it invade the brain,

And make men giddy, proud and vain.

Samuel Butler

Power

Beware of the man who rises to power

From one suspender.

Edgar Lee Masters, "John Hancock Otis," Spoon River Anthology, p. 123 (1915, reprinted 1916).In this poem, the rich John Hancock Otis describes a man "born in a shanty and beginning life as a water carrIer…then section hand…afterwards foreman…who rose to the superintendency of the railroad" as "a veritable slave driver, grinding the faces of labor, and a bitter enemy of democracy."

Power

Even weak men when united are powerful.

Friedrich Schiller

Power

Every Communist must grasp the truth: "Political power grows out of the barrel of a gun."

Mao Tse-Tung, concluding speech at the sixth plenary session of the Central Committee, Communist party, China, November 6, 1938.—Mao, Selected Works, vol. 2, p. 272 (1954).

Power

Every institution which grapples with the problem of molding recalcitrant material into a fairer shape—and nothing is more recalcitrant than the passions and interests of men—runs the risk of being defeated by its material. And since the institution which proposes the ideal is itself served by fallible human beings, the danger is not only that the experiment may fail but that the artists themselves, wrestling with such insidious substances as power, responsibility, and material goods, may themselves be caught by these powerful instincts, may appropriate to themselves the power they sought to tame or the riches they had hoped to divert to a nobler cause.

Barbara Ward, Faith and Freedom, chapter 7, p. 94 (1954).

Power

For we put the power in the people.

William Penn.—Robert Proud, The History of Pennsylvania in North America, vol. 1, p. 139 (1797).

Power

From this we learn that a wise prince sees to it that never, in order to attack someone, does he become the ally of a prince more powerful than himself, except when necessity forces him, as I said above. If you win, you are the powerful king's prisoner, and wise princes avoid as much as they can being in other men's power.

Niccolo Machiavelli, The Prince, chapter 21, in Machiavelli: The Chief Works and Others, trans. Allan Gilbert, vol. I, pp. 83-84 (1965).

Power

Great men are almost always bad men, even when they exercise influence and not authority, still more when you superadd the tendency or the certainty of corruption by authority.

Lord Acton (John E. E. Dalberg)

Letter to Mandell (later, Bishop) Creighton, April 5, 1887.

Historical Essays and Studies, 1907.

Power

His last reply to a summons to Rome—"I assume that as Chief Vicar of Christ upon earth, the Bishop of Rome is of all men bound to the law of Christ's gospel. Now Christ, during his life upon earth, was of all men the poorest, casting from Him all worldly authority. I deduce from these promises, as a simple counsel of my own, that the Pope should surrender all temporal authority to the civil power and advise his clergy to do the same."

John Wycliffe

Green

Power

History is not a web woven with innocent hands. Among all the causes which degrade and demoralize men, power is the most constant and the most active.

Lord Acton (John E. E. Dalberg)

Essays on Freedom and Power, XVII.

Power

I am more and more convinced that man is a dangerous creature; and that power, whether vested in many or a few, is ever grasping, and like the grave, cries "Give, give!"

Abigail Adams

Letter to John Adams, November 27, 1775.

Power

I cannot accept your canon that we are to judge Pope and King unlike other men, with a favourable presumption that they did no wrong. If there is any presumption it is the other way, against the holders of power, increasing as the power increases.

Lord Acton (John E. E. Dalberg)

Letter to Mandell (later, Bishop) Creighton, April 5, 1887.

Historical Essays and Studies, 1907.

Power

I have never been able to conceive how any rational being could propose happiness to himself from the exercise of power over others.

Thomas Jefferson

Power

I know my soul hath power to know all things,

Yet is she blind and ignorant in all:

I know I'm one of Nature's little kings,

Yet to the least and vilest things am thrall

Sir John Davies

Nosce Teipsum, 44

Power

I know of nothing sublime which is not some modification of power.

Edmund Burke

Power

In a republic this rule ought to be observed: that the majority should not have the predominant power.

Marcus Tullius Cicero (106-43 B.C.)

De Re Publica (54-51 B.C.)

Power

In the main it will be found that a power over a man's support [salary] is a power over his will.

Alexander Hamilton, The Federalist, ed. Benjamin F. Wright, no. 73, p. 468 (1961).

Power

Irresponsible power is inconsistent with liberty, and must corrupt those who exercise it.

John C. Calhoun

Power

It is necessary to abolish completely, in principle and in practice, everything which may be called political power. As long as political power exists there will always be rulers and ruled, masters and slaves, exploiters and exploited.

Mikhail A. Bakunin

Gesammelte Werke, Golos trude edition, III, 22.

Power

Let us consider, my Lords, that arbitrary Power has seldome or never been introduced into any Country at once. It must be introduced by slow degrees, and as it were step by step, lest the people should perceive its approach.

Philip Dormer Stanhope,

4th Earl of Chesterfield (1694-1773)

Against Licensing the Stage

(speech written for delivery,

House of Lord, 1737)

Power

Let us not be unmindful that liberty is power, that the nation blessed with the largest portion of liberty must in proportion to its numbers be the most powerful nation upon earth. Our Constitution professedly rests upon the good sense and attachment of the people. This basis, weak as it may appear, has not yet been found to fail. Always vote for a principle, though you vote alone, and you may cherish the sweet reflection that your vote is never lost. America, in the assembly of nations, has uniformly spoken among them the language of equal liberty, equal justice, and equal rights.

John Quincy Adams

1821.

Power

Men set more store by wealth, and of all things

In the wide world it hath the greatest power.

Euripides (485-406 B.C.)

The Phoenissae (411 B.C.)

Power

More power than any good man should want, and more power than any other kind of man ought to have.

Senator Daniel O. Hastings, remark in the Senate on the power to be given President Franklin D. Roosevelt by the proposed work-relief program, March 23, 1935. Hastings said the bill as passed by the House was remarkable In two ways. "First, the huge amount involved, it being probably the largest appropriation ever made by any legislative body. Second, the amount was not only shocking to the average American citizen, but what was more alarming was the fact that its expenditure was left entirely in the discretion of the Executive."—Congressional Record, vol. 79, p. 4353.Hastings's remark repeats the sound of words made famous in an exchange in the Senate between Senators Lucius Q. C. Lamar of Mississippi and Roscoe Conkling of New York. Conkling, whose arrogance made him unpopular, was humiliated by Lamar, who was considered one of the coolest, most courteous members of the Senate. Lamar's reputation for self-control gave his words an added sting. Conkling said that if Lamar charged him with falsehood outside the Senate, he would denounce him as a blackguard, a coward, and a liar.

Lamar responded: "Mr. President, I have only to say that the Senator from New York understood me correctly. I did mean to say just precisely the words, and all that they imported. I beg pardon of the Senate for the unparliamentary language. It was very harsh; it was very severe; it was such as no good man would deserve, and no brave man would wear." Though Conkling had served notice that he would attend to the insult at some other time, he never did, and his prestige was lost. He resigned from the Senate two years later.—Congressional Record, June 18, 1879, vol. 9, p. 2144. Also see Wirt Armistead Cate, Lucius Q. C. Lamar pp. 348-58 (1932, reprinted 1969).

Power

My cool judgement is, that if all the other doctrines of devils which have been committed to writing since letters were in the world were collected together in one volume, it would fall short of this; and that, should a Prince form himself by this book, so calmly recommending hypocrisy, treachery, lying, robbery, oppression, adultery, whoredom, and murder of all kinds, Domitian or Nero would be an angel of light compared to that man.

John Wesley, comment after reading The Works of Nicholas Machiavel, journal entry for January 26, 1737.—The Journal of the Rev. John Wesley, A.M., ed. Nehemiah Curnock, vol. 1, p. 313 (1909).

Power

No extraordinary power should be lodged in any one individual.

Thomas Paine

Power

Now Art, used collectively, for painting, sculpture, architecture and music, is the mediatress between, and reconciler of, nature and man. It is, therefore, the power of humanizing nature, of infusing the thoughts and passions of man into everything which is the object of his contemplation: color, form, motion, and soul, are the elements which it combines, and it stamps them into unity in the mould of a moral idea.

The primary art is writing.

Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1772-1834)

On Poesy and Art (1818)

Power

People, crushed by law, have no hopes but power.

Edmund Burke

Letter to C. J. Fox, October 8, 1777.

Power

Power gradually extirpates from the mind every humane and gentle virtue.

Edmund Burke

A Vindication of Natural Society, 1756.

Power

Power is ever stealing from the many to the few.

Wendell Phillips

Power

Power may justly be compared to a great river; while kept within its bounds it is both beautiful and useful, but when it overflows its banks, it is then too impetuous to be stemmed; it bears down all before it, and brings destruction and desolation wherever it comes.

Andrew Hamilton

Power

Power tends to corrupt and absolute power corrupts absolutely. Great men are almost always bad men, even when they exercise influence and not authority: still more when you superadd the tendency or the certainty of corruption by authority.

Lord Acton, letter to Mandell Creighton, April 5, 1887.—Acton, Essays on Freedom and Power ed. Gertrude Himmelfarb, pp. 335-36 (1972).

Power

Power, like the diamond, dazzles the beholder, and also the wearer; it dignifies meanness; it magnifies littleness; to what is contemptible, it gives authority; to what is low, exaltation.

Charles Caleb Colton (1780-1832)

The Lacon (1829)

Power

The essence of Government is power; and power, lodged as it must be in human hands, will ever be liable to abuse.

James Madison, speech in the Virginia constitutional convention, Richmond, Virginia, December 2, 1829.—The Writings of James Madison, ed. Gaillard Hunt, vol. 9, p. 361 (1910). These words are inscribed in the Madison Memorial Hall, Library of Congress James Madison Memorial Building.

Power

The exercise of irresponsible power, by whatever means, is tyranny, and should not be tolerated. The power which men irresponsibly exercise for their private ends, over individuals and communities, through superior wealth, is essentially tyrannous, and as inconsistent with democratic principle and as offensive to self-respecting men as any form of political tyranny that was ever endured. As political equality is the remedy for political tyranny, so is economic equality the only way of putting an end to the economic tyranny exercised by the few over the many through the superiority of wealth. The industrial system of a nation, like its political system, should be a government of the people, by the people, for the people. Until the economic equality shall give a basis to political equality, the latter is but a sham.

Edward Bellamy

Masthead of his weekly, The New Nation.

Power

The imagination then, I consider either as primary, or secondary. The primary imagination I hold to be the living Power and prime Agent of all human Perception, and as a repetition in the finite mind of the eternal act of creation in the infinite I AM. The secondary imagination I consider as an echo of the former, co-existing with the conscious will, yet still as identical with the primary in the kind of its agency, and differing only in degree, and in the mode of its operation. It dissolves, diffuses, dissipates, in order to recreate; or where this process is rendered impossible, yet still at all events it struggles to idealize and to unify. It is essentially vital, even as all objects (as objects) are essentially fixed and dead.

Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1772-1834)

Biographia Literaria (1817), Ch. XIII

Power

The measure of man is what he does with power.

Pittacus

Power

The poet, described in ideal perfection, brings the whole soul of a man into activity, with the subordination of its faculties to each other, according to their relative worth and dignity. He diffuses a tone and spirit of unity, that blends, and (as it were) fuses, each into each, by that synthetic and magical power, to which we have exclusively apropriated the name of imagination. This power, first put in action by the will and understanding, and retained under their irremissive, though gentle and unnoticed, control (laxis effertur habenis) reveals itself in the balance or reconciliation of opposite or discordant qualities: of sameness, with difference; of the general, with the concrete; the idea, with the image; the individual, with the representative; the sense of novelty and freshness, with old and familiar objects; a more than usual state of emotion, with more than usual order; judgment ever awake and steady self-possession, with enthusiasm and feeling profound or vehement; and while it blends and harmonizes the natural and the artificial, still subordinates art to nature; the manner to the matter, and our admiration for the poet to our sympathy with the poetry.

Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1772-1834)

Biographia Literaria (1817), Ch. XIV

Power

The power of Kings and Magistrates is nothing else, but what is only derivative, transferr'd and committed to them in trust from the People, to the common good of them all, in whom the power yet remaines fundamentally, and cannot be tak'n from them, without a violation of thir natural birthright.

John Milton, "The Tenure of Kings," The Works of John Milton, vol. 5, p. 10 (1932).

Power

The Strongest poison ever known

Came from Caesar's Laurel Crown.

William Blake

Auguries of Innocence.

Power

Then everything includes itself in power,

Power into will, will into appetite;

And appetite, an universal wolf,

So doubly seconded with will and power,

Must make perforce a universal prey,

And last eat up himself.

William Shakespeare

Troilus and Cressida, I, iii, 119

Power

There are similarities between absolute power and absolute faith: a demand for absolute obedience, a readiness to attempt the impossible, a bias for simple solutions—to cut the knot rather than unravel it, the viewing of compromise as surrender. Both absolute power and absolute faith are instruments of dehumanization. Hence, absolute faith corrupts as absolutely as absolute power.

Eric Hoffer, "Thoughts of Eric Hoffer, Including: 'Absolute Faith Corrupts Absolutely" The New York Times Magazine, April 25, 1971, p. 24.

Power

There are two powers by which chiefly this world is ruled: the sacred authority of the priesthood and the authority of kings. And of these, the authority of the priests is so much the weightier, as they must render before the tribunal of God an account even for the kings of men.

Gelasius I (?-496), Pope from 492

Letter to Byzantine Emperor Anastasius I, 494

Power

There is no worse heresy than that the office sanctifies the holder of it.

Lord Acton, letter to Mandell Creighton, April 5, 1887.—Acton, Essays on Freedom and Power ed. Gertrude Himmelfarb, p. 336 (1972).

Power

There is nothing, absolutely nothing, which needs to be more carefully guarded against than that one man should be allowed to become more powerful than the people.

Demosthenes (384?-322? B.C.)

Power

They realize that in thirty-four months we have built up new instruments of public power. In the hands of a people's Government this power is wholesome and proper. But in the hands of political puppets of an economic autocracy such power would provide shackles for the liberties of the people.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt, annual message to the Congress, January 3, 1936.—The Public Papers and Addresses of Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1936, p. 16 (1938).

Power

They that have power to hurt and will do none,

That do not do the thing they most do show,

Who, moving others, are themselves as stone,

Unmoved, cold, and to temptation slow.

William Shakespeare

Sonnet 94, 1

Power

Those who have once been intoxicated with power, and have derived any kind of emolument from it, even though but for one year, can never willingly abandon it.

Edmund Burke

Letter to member of National Assembly.

Power

To have what we want is riches, but to be able to do without is power.

G. MacDonald

Power

To the lowly, the powerful and rich are as gods.

Euripides (485-406 B.C.)

Iphigenia in Tauris (c. 413 B.C.)

Power

We have, in truth, resorted to power [in Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Vietnam] because our politics has failed. Since no politician can afford to admit this, we must pretend that we are resorting to power in order to make our politics succeed.

Theodore Draper, Abuse of Power p. 164 (1967).

Power

We hold in our hands the power to end our sorrows and he who is willing to die can brave any calamity.

Pierre Corneille (1606-1684)

Horace (1640), Act II

Power

What the proletarian needs, he can obtain only from the bourgeoisie, which is protected in its monopoly by the power of the State…

Friedrich Engels (1820-1895)

The Origin of the Family (1894)

Power

Whatever Party of Men obtain the Reins of Management, and have power to name the Person who shall License the Press, that Party of Men have the whole power of keeping the World in Ignorance, in all matters relating to Religion or Policy, since the Writers of that Party shall have full liberty to impose their Notions upon the World.

Daniel Defoe (1660?-1731)

An Essay on the Regulation of the Press (January 7, 1704)

Power

When I resist, therefore, when I as a Democrat resist the concentration of power, I am resisting the processes of death, because the concentration of power is what always precedes the destruction of human initiative, and, therefore of human energy.

Woodrow Wilson, governor of New Jersey, speech, New York City, September 4, 1912.—The Papers of Woodrow Wilson, ed. Arthur S. Link, vol. 25, p. 100 (1978). This speech was delivered to the Woodrow Wilson Workingmen's League "dollar dinner," at the Yorkville Casino.

Power

[Of his son] The boy is the most powerful of all the Hellenes; for the Hellenes are commanded by the Athenians, the Ahtenians by myself, myself by the boy's mother, and the mother by her boy.

Themistocles

From Plutarch, Lives, Themistocles, 18

Praise

A refusal of praise is a desire to be praised twice.

Francois Rochefoucauld

Praise

Correction does much, but encouragement does more. Encouragement after censure is as the sun after a shower.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Praise

For thee the wonder—working earth puts forth sweet flowers.

Lucretius [Titus Lucretius Carus]

De Rerum Natura (On the Nature of Things), I, 7

Praise

He who praises every body, praises nobody.

Attributed to Samuel Johnson, "Johnsoniana," The European Magazine and London Review, January 1785, p. 55.The anecdote which quotes this line was reprinted in The Works of Samuel Johnson, vol. 11 (Apophthegms, Sentiments, Opinions and Occasional Reflections), p. 216 (1787). According to George Birkbeck Hill, Johnsonian Miscellanies, vol. 2, pp. 1, 312 (1897, reprinted 1966), the author of this anecdote was George Steevens.

Praise

He who praises everybody praises nobody.

Dr. Samuel Johnson

Praise

He who refuses praise the first time that it is offered does so because he would hear it a second time.

Duc de la Rochefoucauld

Praise

How comes it, Maecenas, that no man living is content with the lot that either his choice has given him, or chance has thrown in his way, but each has praise for those who follow other paths?

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Satires, I, i, 1

Praise

I am about courting a girl I have had but little acquaintance with. How shall I come to a knowledge of her faults, and whether she has the virtues I imagine she has? Answer: Commend her among her female acquaintance.

Benjamin Franklin, "Miscellaneous Observations," The Works of Benjamin Franklin, ed. Jared Sparks, vol. 2, p. 550 (1836).

Praise

I know of no manner of speaking so offensive as that of giving praise, and closing with an exception.

Sir Richard Steele

Praise

I much prefer a compliment, insincere or not, to sincere criticism.

Plautus

Praise

It is not for minds like ours to give or to receive flattery; yet the praises of sincerity have ever been permitted to the voice of friendship.

George Gordon, Lord Byron, "Childe Harold's Pilgrimage," canto 4, dedication, The Complete Poetical Works of Lord Byron, ed. Paul E. More, p. 54 (1905).

Praise

Leave off wishing to deserve any thanks from anyone, or thinking that anyone can ever become grateful.

Gaius Valerius Catullus

Carmina, LXXIII, 1

Praise

Of whom to be disprais'd were no small praise.

John Milton

Paradise Regained, III, 56

Praise

Praise is the shipwreck of historians.

Lord Acton (John E. E. Dalberg)

Inaugural lecture on the Study of History. Cambridge, June 11, 1895.

Praise

Praise, like gold and diamonds, owes its value to its scarcity.

Dr. Samuel Johnson

Praise

The deepest principle of Human Nature is the craving to be appreciated.

William James

Praise

The hunger for applause is the source of all conscious literature and heroism.

Duc de la Rochefoucauld

Praise

The Praise you take, although it be your Due,

Will be suspected if it come from you.

Benjamin Franklin

Poor Richard's Almanac

Praise

They praise those verses, yes, but read something else.

Martial [Marcus Valerius Martialis]

Epigrams, IV, 49

Praise

Those who are greedy of praise prove that they are poor in merit.

Plutarch

Praise

Vanity is so secure in the heart of man that everyone wants to be admired: even I who write this, and you who read this.

Blaise Pascal

Praise

You puff the poets of other days,

The living you deplore.

Spare me the accolade: your praise

Is not worth dying for.

Martial [Marcus Valerius Martialis]

Epigrams, VIII, 69

Prayer

"God bless us every one!" said Tiny Tim, the last of all.

Charles Dickens, A Christmas Carol, stave 3, p. 74 (1963). First published in 1843.

Prayer

"I have but one prayer to God amid these calamities, either that He would free this city from the enemy, or, if not, that He would make His servant strong to bear His will, or at least that He would take me to Himself from this world." "Into Thy hands, I commend my spirit."

St Augustine of Hippo

Farrar

Prayer

BEGINNING THE DAY

I met God in the morning,

When my day was at its best,

And His presence came like sunshine,

Like a glory in my breast.

All day long the presence lingered,

All day long He stayed with me,

And we sailed in perfect calmness

O'er a very troubled sea.

So, I think I know the secret,

Learned from many a troubled way,

You must seek God in the morning,

If you want him thru the day.

Burr McIntosh

Prayer

A prayer, in its simplest definition, is merely a wish turned heavenward.

Phillips Brooks

Prayer

Almighty and most merciful Father, we humbly beseech Thee, of Thy great goodness, to restrain these immoderate rains with which we have had to contend. Grant us fair weather for Battle. Graciously hearken to us as soldiers who call upon Thee that, armed with Thy power, we may advance from victory to victory, and crush the oppression and wickedness of our enemies, and establish Thy justice among men and nations. Amen.

Colonel James H. O'Neill, prayer for good weather, December 1944.—Ladislas Farago, Patton, Ordeal and Triumph, chapter 36, p. 690 (1964). General George S. Patton, Jr., ordered Colonel O'Neill, chaplain of the Third Army, to produce this prayer.

Prayer

Almighty God, who hast given us this good land for our heritage; We humbly beseech Thee that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of Thy favor and glad to do Thy will. Bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning, and pure manners. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogancy, and from every evil way. Defend our liberties, and fashion into one united people the multitudes brought hither out of many kindreds and tongues. Endure with the spirit of wisdom those to whom in Thy Name we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that, through obedience to Thy law, we may show forth Thy praise among the nations of the earth. In the time of prosperity, fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble, suffer not our trust in Thee to fail; Amen.

George L. Locke, prayer, c. 1880.President Franklin D. Roosevelt included it as "an old prayer" without attribution, in his final radio speech of the 1940 presidential campaign, November 4, 1940.—The Public Papers and Addresses of Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1940, pp. 557-58 (1941). Life magazine reproduced the prayer in its issue of November 18, 1940, and in a letter to the editor in the December 9 issue, p. 4, the Rev. Mr. Locke's daughter wrote about his authorship and the circumstances of his composing the prayer.

Prayer

Any heart turned Godward, feels more joy in one short hour of prayer, than e'er was raised by all the feasts on earth since its foundations.

Bailey

Prayer

As men's prayers are a disease of the will, so are their creeds a disease of the intellect.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Essays: First Series (1841)

Prayer

Build me a son, O Lord, who will be strong enough to know when he is weak, and brave enough to face himself when he is afraid; one who will be proud and unbending in honest defeat, and humble and gentle in victory. Build me a son whose wishes will not take the place of deeds; a son who will know Thee—and that to know himself is the foundation stone of knowledge. Lead him, I pray, not in the path of ease and comfort, but under the stress and spur of difficulties and challenge. Here let him learn to stand up in the storm; here let him learn compassion for those who fail. Build me a son whose heart will be clear, whose goal will be high; a son who will master himself before he seeks to master other men; one who will reach into the future, yet never forget the past. And after all these things are his, add, I pray, enough of a sense of humor, so that he may always be serious, yet never take himself too seriously. Give him humility, so that he may always remember the simplicity of true greatness, the open mind of true wisdom, and the meekness of true strength. Then, I, his father, will dare to whisper, "I have not lived in vain."

General Douglas Macarthur, "A Father's Prayer."—Courtney Whitney, MacArthur; His Rendevous with History, p. 547 (1956).Written "during the early days of the desperate campaigns in the Far East in World War II."

Prayer

But pray God that he absolve us all!

Francois Villon

Codicile

Prayer

Do not ask the Lord to guide your footsteps, If you are not willing to move your feet.

Author Unknown

Prayer

Do not make prayer a monologue—make it a conversation.

Author Unknown

Prayer

Every discovery I have made that has contributed to the benefit of man, He has given me in answer to prayer.

Lord Kelvin

Prayer

For Mercy has a human heart

Pity, a human face:

And Love, the human form divine,

And Peace, the human dress.

Then every man of every clime,

That prays in his distress,

Prays to the human form divine

Love Mercy Pity Peace.

William Blake, "The Divine Image," stanzas 3 and 4, lines 9-16, The Complete Poetry and Prose of William Blake, ed. David V. Erdman, pp. 12-13 (1982). First published in 1789.

Prayer

Give us courage and gaiety and the quiet mind. Spare to us our friends, soften to us our enemies. Bless us, if it may be, in all our innocent endeavors. If it may not, give us the strength to encounter that which is to come, that we be brave in peril, constant in tribulation, temperate in wrath, and in all changes of fortune and down to the gates of death, loyal and loving one to another.

Robert Louis Stevenson, prayer "For Success," Vailima Papers and a Footnote to History, p. 7 (1925).This was used by Adlai E. Stevenson on his Christmas card in 1962.

Prayer

God give me the serenity to accept things which cannot be changed;

Give me courage to change things which must be changed;

And the wisdom to distinguish one from the other.

Attributed to Reinhold Niebuhr.—The A.A. Grapevine, January 1950, pp. 6-7; also June Bingham, Courage to Change, p. iii (1961), where the version differs somewhat: "O God, give us serenity to accept what cannot be changed, courage to change what should be changed, and wisdom to distinguish the one from the other."Alcoholics Anonymous has used this prayer, with minor changes in wording, since about 1940. According to the first source, Dr. Niebuhr said, "It may have been spooking around for years, even centuries, but I don't think so. I honestly do believe that I wrote it myself."

The Anglican publishing house, Mobray of London, for more than a century has identified it as a General or Common Prayer of fourteenth-century England, according to a reader of American Notes and Queries, June 1970, p. 154. He added that "Reinhold Niebuhr has acknowledged, more than once, both in seminar and publicly that he was not the original author of the Serenity Prayer."In Ausblick von der Weibertreu by Christoph Duncker, p. 1 (1973), the following lines are attributed to a Johann Christoph Oetinger, deacon in Weinsberg from 1762 to 1769: "Gib mir Gelassenheit, Dinge hinzunehmen, die ich nicht andern kann, Den Mut, Dinge zu andern, die ich andern kann, und die Weisheit, das eine vom andern zu untersheiden," which can be translated as above. Another reader of American Notes and Queries, October 1969, p. 25, gives a nearly identical quotation and states that it can be traced to Friedrich Christoph Oetinger (1702-1782), German theologian and theosophist, without giving a source.

Whatever the original source or wording, Niebuhr and A.A. have made the prayer well-known in the United States.

Prayer

God many times answers our prayers not by bringing down his will to ours; but lifting us up to himself. We grow strong; so as to need no longer cry for relief. We can bear the heavy load without asking to have it lightened. We can keep the sorrow now and endure it. We can go on in quiet peace without the new blessing which we thought so necessary. We have not been saved from the battle we shrank so from entering; but we have sought and have gained the victory. Is not victoriousness in conflict better than being freed from the struggle? Is not peace in the midst of the storm and the strife better than to be lifted together over the strife?

J. R. Miller

Prayer

Grant us a common faith that man shall know bread and peace—that he shall know justice and righteousness, freedom and security, an equal opportunity and an equal chance to do his best not only in our own lands, but throughout the world. And in that faith let us march toward the clean world our hands can make.

Stephen Vincent Benet, Prayer, concluding sentences (1942).Archibald MacLeish, poet and Librarian of Congress, asked Benet to write "The United Nations Prayer" to be used in the celebration of Flag Day, 1942. President Franklin D. Roosevelt used it to close his radio address on Flag Day, June 14, 1942. Adlai E. Stevenson used this final section of the prayer on his Christmas cards in 1964.

Prayer

Guide me; O Lord; in all the changes and varieties of this world; that in all things that shall happen; I may have an evenness and tranquility of spirit; that my soul bay be wholly resigned to thy divine will and pleasure.

Jeremy Taylor

Prayer

He prayeth best who loveth best all things, both great and small.

William H. Coleridge

Prayer

He prayeth well, who loveth well

Both man and bird and beast.

He prayeth best who loveth best

All things both great and small;

For the dear God who loveth us,

He made and loveth all.

Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1772-1834)

The Ancient Mariner (1798), Pt. VII, st. 22

Prayer

He who prays as he ought will endeavor to live as he prays.

John Jason Otter

Prayer

I asked God for strength, that I might achieve

I was made weak, that I might learn humbly to obey.

I asked for health, that I might do greater things

I was given infirmity, that I might do better things—

I asked for riches, that I might be happy

I was given poverty, that I might be wise.

I asked for power, that I might have the praise of men

I was given weakness, that I might feel the need of God.

I asked for all things, that I might enjoy life

I was given life that I might enjoy all things.

I got nothing that I asked for—but everything I had hoped for

Almost despite myself, my unspoken prayers were answered.

I am, among all men, most richly blessed.

Author unknown. As "A Creed for Those Who Have Suffered," this has been used by rehabilitation centers. Adlai E. Stevenson used these lines on his Christmas card, 1955.

Prayer

I can take my telescope and look millions of miles into space, but I can lay it aside..go into my room, shut the door, get down on my knees in earnest prayer, and see more of heaven, and get closer to God than I can assisted by all the telescopes.

Sir Isaac Newton

Prayer

I now make it my earnest prayer, that God would have you, and the State over which you preside, in his holy protection, that he would incline the hearts of the Citizens to cultivate a spirit of subordination and obedience to Government, to entertain a brotherly affection and love for one another, for their fellow Citizens of the United States at large, and particularly for their brethren who have served in the Field, and finally, that he would most graciously be pleased to dispose us all, to do Justice, to love mercy, and to demean [i.e., comport] ourselves with that Charity, humility and pacific temper of mind, which were the Characteristicks of the Divine Author of our blessed Religion, and without an humble imitation of whose example in these things, we can never hope to be a happy Nation.

General George Washington, circular to the states, Newburgh, New York, June 8, 1783.—The Writings of George Washington, ed. John C. Fitzpatrick, vol. 26, p. 496 (1938).

Prayer

I Pray Heaven to bestow the best of blessing on THIS HOUSE, and on All that shall hereafter Inhabit it. May none but honest and wise men ever rule under this roof!

President John Adams, letter to his wife Abigail, November 2, 1800, the day after he moved into the White House.—Letters of John Adams Addressed to His Wife, ed. Charles Francis Adams, p. 267 (1841).President Franklin D. Roosevelt had this lettered in gold in the marble over the fireplace in the State Dining Room of the White House. The quotation above follows the capitalization used in the inscription.

Prayer

I pray the gods some respite from the weary task of this long year's watch that lying on the Atreidae's roof on bended arm, dog- like, I have kept, marking the conclave of all night's stars, those potentates blazing in the heavens that bring winter and summer to mortal men, the constellations, when they wane, when they rise.

Aeschylus

Agamemnon, 1

Prayer

I remember my mother's prayers and they have always followed me. They have clung to me all my life.

Abraham Lincoln (1809—assassinated 1865)

Prayer

If God listened to the prayers of men, all men would quickly have perished: for they are forever praying for evil against one another.

Epicurus (341-270 B.C.)

Fragments (from uncertain sources), Physics 58

Prayer

If your knees are knocking, kneel on them.

Author Unknown

Prayer

Lord Jesu, blessed Pelican.

St. Thomas Aquinas

Adoro Te Devote (Hymn Appointed For The Thanksgiving After

Mass), st. 6 (Pie Pellicane Jesu Domine)

Prayer

Lord, make me a channel of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let me bring love.

Where there is offense, forgiveness.

Where there is discord, reconciliation.

Where there is doubt, faith.

Where there is despair, hope.

Where there is sadness, joy.

Where there is darkness, your light.

If we give, we are made rich.

If we forget ourselves, we find peace.

If we forgive, we receive forgiveness.

If we die, we receive eternal resurrection.

Give us peace, Lord.

Attributed to St. Francis of Assisi.—Auspicius van Corstanje, Francis: Bible of the Poor p. 203 (1977)."This prayer cannot be found in any of the early texts written by Francis. In its present form, it is probably not even a hundred years old. All the same, it clearly reflects the spirit of Francis. He could have written it, and that is why it is generally attributed to him" (p. 203). A slightly different version ("Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace") can be found in Masterpieces of Religious Verse, ed. James Dalton Morrison, p. 130 (1948).

Prayer

Make my mortal dreams come true; With the work I fain would do; Clothe with life the weak intent; Let me be the thing I meant; Let me find in Thy employ; Peace that dearer is than joy.

John Greenleaf Whittier

Prayer

Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John,

The bed be blest that I lie on.

Four angels to my bed,

Four angels round my head,

One to watch, and one to pray,

And two to bear my soul away.

Thomas Ady

A Candle in the Dark

Prayer

May the road rise to meet you.

May the wind be ever at your back

May the Good Lord keep you in the hollow of His hand.

May your heart be as warm as your hearthstone.

And when you come to die may the wail of the poor be the only sorrow you'll leave behind.

May God bless you always.

Author unknown, "An Irish Wish."

—Ralph L. Woods, A Third Treasury of the Familiar; p. 644 (1970).

Another version of this popular Irish blessing:

May the road rise to meet you,

May the wind be always at your back,

May the sun shine warm upon your face,

May the rain fall soft upon your fields,

And, until we meet again,

May God hold you in the palm of His hand.

Prayer

My words fly up, my thoughts stay below. Words without thoughts ne'er to heaven go.

William Shakespeare

Prayer

No matter what position the body is in, the soul is on her knees.

Victor Hugo

Prayer

No person can be lost by following the simple and well-beaten path of ordinary devotion and prayer.

R. H. Benson

Prayer

O God, thy sea is so great, and my boat is so small.

Author unknown. Prayer of Breton fishermen. President John F. Kennedy had on his desk a plaque with these words, given to him by Admiral Hyman Rickover, who gave one like it to the commanding officer of each new Polaris submarine.—Tazewell Taylor Shepard, Jr., John F Kennedy, Man of the Sea, p. 23 (1965).

Prayer

O Lord my God, I have trusted in thee;

O Jesu my dearest one, now set me free.

In prison's oppression, in sorrow's obsession,

I weary for thee.

With sighing and crying bowed down as dying,

I adore thee, I implore thee, set me free!

Mary Stuart [Mary Queen of Scots]

Prayer written in her Book of Devotion before her execution

Prayer

O powerful Goodness! bountiful Father! merciful Guide! Increase in me that wisdom which discovers my truest interest. Strengthen my resolutions to perform what that wisdom dictates. Accept my kind offices to thy other children as the only return in my power for thy continual favors to me.

Benjamin Franklin

Prayer

Orare est laborare, laborare est orare.

To pray is to work, to work is to pray.

Anonymous Latin

Ancient motto of the

Benedictine Monks

Prayer

Our earnest prayer is that God will graciously vouchsafe prosperity, happiness, and peace to all our neighbors, and like blessings to all the peoples and powers of earth.

President William Mckinley, speech delivered at the Pan-American Exposition, Buffalo, New York, September 5, 1901.—Modern Eloquence, ed. Ashley H. Thorndike, rev. Adam Ward, vol. 11, p. 401 (1936).This was McKinley's last speech, as he was mortally wounded the next day at the Exposition. He served in Congress 1877-1884 and 1885-1891.

Prayer

Pray as if everything depended on God, and work as if everything depended upon man.

Francis Cardinal Spellman

Prayer

Pray for me! and what noise soever ye hear, come not unto me, for nothing can rescue me.

Christopher Marlowe

The Tragical History of Doctor Faustus, sc. xvi

Prayer

Prayer covers the whole of a man's life. There is no thought, feeling, yearning, or desire, however low, trifling, or vulgar we may deem it, which, if it affects our real interest or happiness, we may not lay before God and be sure of sympathy. His nature is such that our often coming does not tire him. The whole burden of the whole life of everyman may be rolled on to God and not weary him, though it has wearied the man.

Henry Ward Beecher

Prayer

Prayer is a force as real as terrestrial gravity. As a physician I have seen men, after all other therapy had failed, lifted out of disease and melancholy by the serene effort of prayer. It is the only power in the world that seems to overcome the so-called "laws of nature". The occasions on which prayer has dramatically done this have been termed "miracles." But a constant quieter miracle takes place hourly in the hearts of men and women who have discovered that prayer supplies them with a steady flow of sustaining power in their daily lives.

Alexis Carrel M.D.

Prayer

Prayer is a passport to heaven….Your communication with God.

Author Unknown

Prayer

Prayer is the peace of our spirit, the stillness of our thoughts, the evenness of our recollection, the sea of our meditation, the rest of our cares, and the calm of our tempest.

Jeremy Taylor

Prayer

Prayer is the soul's sincere desire unuttered or expressed.

James Montgomery

Prayer

Prayer that craves a particular commodity, anything less than all good, is vicious…prayer as a means to effect a private end is meanness and theft…. As soon as the man is at one with God, he will not beg.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Essays: First Series (1841)

Prayer

Prayer will make a man cease from sin; or sin will entice a man to cease from prayer.

John Bunyan

Prayer

Prayers are the daughters of mighty Zeus, lame and wrinkled and slanting-eyed.

Homer

The Iliad, IX, 502

Prayer

Prayers should be the key to the day and the lock of night.

English Proverb

Prayer

Seven days without prayer makes one weak.

Author Unknown

Prayer

Slow me down, Lord! Ease the pounding of my heart by the quieting of my mind. Steady my hurried pace with a vision of the eternal reach of time. Give me, amidst the confusion of my day, the calmness of the everlasting hills. Break the tensions of my nerves and muscles with the soothing music of singing streams that live in my memory. Teach me the art of taking minute vacations…of slowing down to look at a flower, to chat with a friend, to pat a dog, to read a few lines from a good book. Remind me each day of the fable of the hare and the tortoise, that I may know that the race is not always to the swift; that there is more to life than measuring its speed. Let me look upward into the branches of the towering oak and know that it grew great and strong because it grew slowly and well. Slow me down, Lord, and inspire me to send my roots deep into the soil of life's enduring values that I may grow toward the stars of my greater destiny.

Author unknown.

Prayer

So weak is man—so ignorant and blind, that did not God sometimes withhold in mercy what we ask, we should be ruined at our own request.

Hannah More

Prayer

Stars above our cornfields,

Morning-colored wind,

Snow, and wood-fires burning

On hearths we leave behind.

(Shine for us, dear beacons.)

God of the hidden purpose,

Let our embarking be

The prayer of proud men asking

Not to be safe, but free.

Henry Morton Robinson, "Litany for D-Day: 1944," stanzas 4 and 5, The Enchanted Grindstone and Other Poems, p. 93 (1952).

Prayer

The people's prayer, the glad diviner's theme,

The young men's vision, and the old men's dream!

John Dryden

Absalom and Achitophel, I, 238

Prayer

The things, good Lord, that I pray for, give me thy grace to labour for. Amen.

Sir Thomas More, English Prayers and Treatise on the Holy Eucharist, ed. Philip E. Hallett, p. 20 (1938). His English works were published in 1557.

Prayer

There is nothing I can give you which you have not got; but there is much, very much, that, while I cannot give it, you can take. No Heaven can come to us unless our hearts find rest in it today. Take Heaven! No peace lies in the future which is not hidden in this present little instant. Take peace!

The gloom of the world is but a shadow. Behind it, yet within our reach, is joy. There is radiance and glory in the darkness, could we but see; and to see, we have only to look. Contessina I beseech you to look.

Life is so generous a giver, but we, judging its gifts by their covering, cast them away as ugly or heavy or hard. Remove the covering, and you will find beneath it a living splendour, woven of love, by wisdom, with power. Welcome it, grasp it, and you touch the Angel's hand that brings it to you. Everything we call a trial, a sorrow, or a duty: believe me, that angel's hand is there; the gift is there, and the wonder of an overshadowing Presence. Our joys, too: be not content with them as joys, they too conceal diviner gifts.

Life is so full of meaning and of purpose, so full of beauty—beneath its covering—that you will find that earth but cloaks your heaven. Courage, then to claim it: that is all! But courage you have; and the knowledge that we are pilgrims together, wending through unknown country, home.

And so, at this Christmas time, I greet you; not quite as the world sends greetings, but with profound esteem, and with the prayer that for you, now and forever, the day breaks and the shadows flee away.

Fra Giovanni, A Letter to the Most Illustrious the Contessina Allagia Dela Aldobrandeschi, Written Christmas Eve Anno Domini 1513 (193?).

The British Museum stated in 1970 that it had "proved impossible" to identify Fra Giovanni, the purported author of this letter. This was published, probably in the 1930s, "with Christmas Greetings" from Greville MacDonald, son of novelist George MacDonald, and Mary MacDonald.

Prayer

This used to be among my prayers.—a piece of land not so very large, which would contain a garden, and near the house a spring of ever-flowing water, and beyond these a bit of wood.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Satires, II, vi, 1

Prayer

Two went to pray? Oh, rather say

One went to brag, the other to pray.

Richard Crashaw

Steps to the Temple. Two Went Up into the Temple to Pray

Prayer

Unless, before then, the prayer assist me which rises from a heart that lives in grace: what avails the other, which is not heard in heaven?

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy. Purgatorio, canto IV, 133

Prayer

We need tough days to drive us to our knees.

Author Unknown

Prayer

When I had no place to go, I went to my knees.

Abraham Lincoln

Prayer

When your day is hemmed with prayer, chances are it won't come unraveled.

Sign in Military Personnel Office

Prayer

Who goes to bed and does not pray, Maketh two nights to every day.

George Herbert

Prayer

Why worry when you can pray.

Author Unknown

Preaching

He first practices what he preaches, and then preaches according to his practice.

Confucius

Analects

Preaching

He preaches well that lives well, quoth Sancho; that's all the divinity I understand.

Miguel de Cervantes

Don Quixote, pt. II, III, 20, 575

Preaching

Tzu-kung asked about the true gentleman. The Master said, He does not preach what he practices till he has practiced what he preaches.

Confucius (551-479 B.C.)

Analects (tr. Arthur Waley), Bk. II, 13

Prejudice

A lot of good arguments are spoiled by some fool who knows what he is talking about.

Gene Brown

Prejudice

A man convinced against his will

Is of the same opinion still.

Samuel Butler

Prejudice

A prejudice is a vagrant opinion without visible means of support.

Ambrose Bierce

Prejudice

Consider: if you incorporate those tropical countries with the Republic of the United States, you will have to incorporate their people too.

Senator Carl Schurz, remarks in the Senate on the annexation of San Domingo, January 11, 1871, The Congressional Globe, vol. 43, p. 26.

Prejudice

Deep-rooted prejudices entertained by the whites; ten thousand recollections by the blacks of the injuries they have sustained…will divide us into parties, and…will probably never end but in the extermination of the one or the other race.

Thomas Jefferson

Prejudice

Even in an advanced stage of civilization, there is always a tendency to prefer those parts of literature which favor ancient prejudices, rather than those which oppose them; and in cases where this tendency is very strong, the only effect of great learning will be to supply the materials which may corroborate old errors and confirm old superstitions. In our time such instances are not uncommon; and we frequently meet with men whose erudition ministers to their ignorance, and who, the more they read the less they know.

Henry Thomas Buckle

Prejudice

If we believe absurdities we shall commit atrocities.

Voltaire

Prejudice

Ignorance is less remote from truth than prejudice.

Denis Diderot

Prejudice

It is never too late to give up your prejudices.

Henry David Thoreau

Prejudice

Minds are like parachutes, they only function when they're open.

Demosthenes

Prejudice

Narrow minds think nothing right that is above their own capacity.

Francois Rochefoucauld

Prejudice

Never try to reason the prejudice out of a man. It was not reasoned into him and cannot be reasoned out.

Sydney Smith

Prejudice

Opinions founded on prejudice are always sustained with the greatest violence.

Francis Jeffrey

Prejudice

Our prejudices are our robbers, they rob us valuable things in life.

Author Unknown

Prejudice

Prejudice is a great timesaver. It enables you to form opinions without bothering to get facts.

Author Unknown

Prejudice

Prejudice is never easy unless it can pass itself off for reason.

William Hazlitt

Prejudice

Prejudice not being founded on reason cannot be removed by argument.

Samuel Johnson

Prejudice

Prejudices, it is well known, are most difficult to eradicate from the heart whose soil has never been loosened or fertilized by education; they grow there, firm as weeds among stones.

Charlotte Brontë

Jane Eyre.

Prejudice

Sentence first, verdict afterwards.

Lewis Carroll

Prejudice

Sex prejudice is so ingrained in our society that many who practice it are simply unaware that they are hurting women. it is the last socially acceptable prejudice.

Bernice Sandler, testimony, June 19, 1970.—Discrimination Against Women, hearings before the special subcommittee on education of the Committee on Education and Labor, House of Representatives, 91st Congress, 2d session, part 1, p. 302 (1970).She was chairman of the Action Committee for Federal Contract Compliance in Education of the Women's Equity Action League.

Prejudice

So few of us think, we merely rearrange our prejudices.

George Vincent

Prejudice

Some minds are like concrete, all mixed up and permanently set.

Author Unknown

Prejudice

The chief cause of human errors is to be found in the prejudices picked up in childhood.

René Descartes

Prejudice

The multitude, convinced that the Christians were atheists who ate human flesh and thought incest no crime, displayed against them a fury so passionate as to embarrass and alarm their rulers.

Matthew Arnold

Prejudice

The prejudices of ignorance are more easily removed than the prejudices of interest; the first are blindly adopted, the second willfully preferred.

George Bancroft

Prejudice

We are a nation of many nationalities, many races, many religions—bound together by a single unity, the unity of freedom and equality. Whoever seeks to set one nationality against another, seeks to degrade all nationalities. Whoever seeks to set one race against another seeks to enslave all races. Whoever seeks to set one religion against another, seeks to destroy all religion.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt, campaign address, Brooklyn, New York, November 1, 1940.—The Public Papers and Addresses of Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1940, p. 537 (1941).

Prejudice

We are all citizens of one world, we are all of one blood. To hate a man because he was born in another country, because he speaks a different language, or because he takes a different view on this subject or that, is a great folly. Desist, I implore you, for we are all equally human…. Let us have but one end in view, the welfare of humanity.

Attributed to Johann Amos Comenius.—Laurence J. Peter, Peter's Quotations, p. 76 (1977).This passage was used by Adlai E. Stevenson on his Christmas card in 1961.

Preparation

Confidence and courage come through preparation and practice.

Author Unknown

Preparation

Dig a well before you are thirsty.

Chinese Proverb

Preparation

Don't throw away the old bucket until you know whether the new one holds water.

Swedish Proverb

Preparation

I will prepare myself then when my opportunity comes I will be ready.

Abraham Lincoln

Preparation

If ye are prepared, ye shall not fear or faint.

Script

Preparation

If you start soon enough, you won't have to run to catch up.

Author Unknown

Preparation

If you were graduated yesterday, and have learned nothing today, you will be uneducated tomorrow.

Author Unknown

Preparation

It is thrifty to prepare today for the wants of tomorrow.

Aesop

Preparation

Keep a poem in you pocket

And a picture in your head

And you'll never feel lonely

At night when you're in bed.

The little poem will sing to you

Thoughts the picture will bring to you

And you'll never feel lonely

At night when you're in bed.

Beatrice de Regniers

Preparation

Men will find that they can prepare with mutual aid far more easily what they need, and avoid far more easily what they need, and avoid far more easily the perils which beset them on all sides, by united forces.

Benedict Spinoza

Preparation

Preparation precedes power.

Charles Lindbergh

Preparation

Produce great pumpkins, the pies will follow later.

Author Unknown

Preparation

When a mouse laughs at a cat, there's usually a hole nearby.

Arabian Proverb

Preparation

When the well's dry, they know the worth of water.

Author Unknown

Preparedness

A man who qualifies himself well for his calling, never fails of employment.

Thomas Jefferson

Presidency

"Why would anyone want to be President today?" The answer is not one of glory, or fame; today the burdens of the office outweigh its privileges. It's not because the Presidency offers a chance to be somebody, but because it offers a chance to do something.

Richard M. Nixon, television address on NBC and CBS, September 19, 1968.—Nixon Speaks Out, Major Speeches and Statements…in the Presidential Campaign of 1968, p. 1 (1968).

Presidency

I once told you that I am not a saint, and I hope never to see the day that I cannot admit having made a mistake. So I will close with another confession. Frequently, along the tortuous road of recent months from this chamber to the President's House, I protested that I was my own man. Now I realize that I was wrong. I am your man, for it was your carefully weighed confirmation that changed my occupation. The truth is I am the people's man, for you acted in their name, and I accepted and began my new and solemn trust with a promise to serve all the people and do the best that I can for America.

President Gerald R. Ford, address to a joint session of Congress, August 12, 1974.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Gerald B. Ford, 1974., p. 13.

Presidency

In a certain sense, and to a certain extent, he [the president] is the representative of the people. He is elected by them, as well as congress is. But can he, in the nature [of] things, know the wants of the people, as well as three hundred other men, coming from all the various localities of the nation? If so, where is the propriety of having a congress?

Representative Abraham Lincoln, remarks in the House, July 27, 1848.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P Basler, vol. 1, p. 504 (1953).

Presidency

PRESIDENT, n. The leading figure in a small group of men of whom—and of whom only—it is positively known that immense numbers of their countrymen did not want any of them for President.

Ambrose Bierce, The Devil's Dictionary, p. 266 (1948). Originally published in 1906 as The Cynic's Word Book.

Presidency

Allow the President to invade a neighboring nation, whenever he shall deem it necessary to repel an invasion, and you allow him to do so, whenever he may choose to say he deems it necessary for such purpose—and you allow him to make war at pleasure. Study to see if you can fix any limit to his power in this respect, after you have given him so much as you propose. If, today, he should choose to say he thinks it necessary to invade Canada, to prevent the British from invading us, how could you stop him? You may say to him, "I see no probability of the British invading us" but he will say to you "be silent; I see it, if you don't."

The provision of the Constitution giving the war-making power to Congress, was dictated, as I understand it, by the following reasons. Kings had always been involving and impoverishing their people in wars, pretending generally, if not always, that the good of the people was the object. This, our Convention understood to be the most oppressive of all Kingly oppressions; and they resolved to so frame the Constitution that no one man should hold the power of bringing this oppression upon us. But your view destroys the whole matter, and places our President where kings have always stood.

Representative Abraham Lincoln, letter to William H. Herndon, February 15, 1848.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P. Basler, vol. 1, pp. 451-52 (1953).

Presidency

And so it is that I carry with me from this State to that high and lonely office to which I now succeed more than fond memories and fast friendships. The enduring qualities of Massachusetts—the common threads woven by the Pilgrim and the Puritan, the fisherman and the farmer, the Yankee and the immigrant—will not be and could not be forgotten in the Nation's Executive Mansion. They are an indelible part of my life, my convictions, my view of the past, my hopes for the future.

President-elect John F. Kennedy, address to the Massachusetts legislature, January 9, 1961.—Congressional Record, January 10, 1961, vol. 107, Appendix, p. A169.For another portion of this address, see No. 1611.

Presidency

And still the question, "What shall be done with our ex-Presidents?" is not laid at rest; and I sometimes think Watterson's solution of it, "'Pike them out and shoot them," is worthy of attention.

Grover Cleveland, letter to William F. Vilas, April 19, 1889.—Letters of Grover Cleveland, 1850-1908, ed. Allan Nevins, p. 204 (1933).

Henry Watterson, editor of the Louisville, Kentucky, Courier-Journal for fifty years, feared that a president's ambitions would lead him to seek a third term and then life tenancy. Because any other position after the presidency would seem anticlimactic, Watterson believed the country was not safe from any president while he was alive. He especially worried about Theodore Roosevelt, a young president who greatly enjoyed the presidency, and he frequently editorialized on this theme during Roosevelt's second term, though the remark was facetious.—Joseph Henry Wall, Henry Watterson, pp. 254-55 (1956).

Presidency

But I believe this: by and large, the United States ought to be able to choose for its President anybody that it wants, regardless of the number of terms he has served. That is what I believe. Now, some people have said "You let him get enough power and this will lead toward a one-party government." That, I don't believe. I have got the utmost faith in the long-term common sense of the American people. Therefore, I don't think there should be any inhibitions other than those that were in the 35-year age limit and soon. I think that was enough, myself.

President Dwight D. Eisenhower, answer to question seeking his views on limiting U.S. presidents to two terms, news conference, Washington, D.C., October 5, 1956.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Dwight D. Eisenhower, 1956, p. 862.

Presidency

But the PRESIDENT is the Chief Executive of the nation as well as a party leader, and it has been objected that for him to take an active and overt part in influencing the choice of party candidates derogates from the dignity of his high position and is almost a constitutional impropriety.

The Times, London, editorial about President Franklin D. Roosevelt's campaign in the South to influence voting in the forthcoming primary elections, August 16, 1938, p. 13.

Presidency

Following the trail of some of these [President Lyndon Johnson's financial] transactions resembles the action in a western movie, where the cowboys ride off in a cloud of dust to the south, the herd stampedes northeastward, the Indians start to westward but, once out of sight, circle toward the north, the rustlers drift eastward and the cavalry, coming to the rescue, gets lost entirely—all over stony ground leaving little trace.

Keith Wheeler and Michael Lambert,

"The Man Who Is President," part 2, Life, August 21, 1964, p. 69.

Presidency

Franklin D. Roosevelt is no crusader. He is no tribune of the people. He is no enemy of entrenched privilege. He is a pleasant man who, without any important qualifications for the office, would very much like to be President.

Walter Lippmann, Interpretations, 1931-1932, ed. Allan Nevins, p. 262 (1932).

Presidency

I do believe that the buck stops here, that I cannot rely upon public opinion polls to tell me what is right. I do believe that right makes might and that if I am wrong, 10 angels swearing I was right would make no difference. I do believe, with all my heart and mind and spirit, that I, not as President but as a humble servant of God, will receive justice without mercy if I fail to show mercy.

President Gerald R. Ford, announcing his decision to pardon Richard Nixon, September 8, 1974.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Gerald R. Ford, 1974, p. 103.

Presidency

I sleep each night a little better, a little more confidently because Lyndon Johnson is my President. For I know he lives and thinks and works to make sure that for all America and indeed, the growing body of the free world, the morning shall always come.

Jack Valenti, special assistant to the president, address before the Advertising Federation of America convention, Boston, Massachusetts, June 28, 1965.—Congressional Record, July 7, 1965, vol. 111, Appendix, p. A3583.

Presidency

I think it absolutely necessary that the President should have the power of removing [his subordinates] from office; it will make him, in a peculiar manner, responsible for their conduct, and subject him to impeachment himself, if he suffers them to perpetrate with impunity high crimes or misdemeanors against the United States, or neglects to superintend their conduct, so as to check their excesses.

Representative James Madison, remarks in the House, May 19, 1789, Annals of Congress, vol. 1, col. 387.

Presidency

I thought a lot about our Nation and what I should do as President. And Sunday night before last, I made a speech about two problems of our country—energy and malaise.

President Jimmy Carter, remarks at a town meeting, Bardstown, Kentucky, July 31, 1979.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Jimmy Carter, 1979, book 2, p. 1340.Carter was referring to the speech on energy and national goals broadcast from the White House on July 15. He did not use the term "malaise" in that earlier speech.

Presidency

If you have not chosen me by secret ballot, neither have I gained office by any secret promises. I have not campaigned either for the Presidency or the Vice Presidency. I have not subscribed to any partisan platform. I am indebted to no man, and only to one woman—my dear wife—as I begin this very difficult job.

President Gerald R. Ford, remarks on taking the oath of office, August 9, 1974.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Gerald B. Ford, 1974, p. 1.

Presidency

Ike has picked a cabinet of eight millionaires and one plumber.

T. R. B. (Richard Strout),

"Washington Wire," New Republic,

December 15, 1952, p. 3.

The plumber was secretary of labor Martin Durkin

of Chicago, head of the Journeyman Plumbers

and Steamfitters Union. See William Safire,

Safire's Political Dictionary, pp. 195-96 (1968).

Presidency

My friends—….I now leave, not knowing when, or whether ever, I may return, with a task before me greater than that which rested upon Washington. Without the assistance of that Divine Being, who ever attended him, I cannot succeed. With that assistance, I cannot fail.

President-elect Abraham Lincoln, farewell address at Springfield, Illinois, February 11, 1861.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P Basler, vol. 4, p. 190 (1953)."W H. Lamon, who witnessed this scene of farewell, says: 'having reached the train he [Lincoln] ascended the rear platform, and, facing the throng which had closed around him, drew himself up to his full height, removed his hat, and stood for several seconds in profound silence…. There was an unusual quiver on his lip, and a still more unusual tear on his furrowed cheek…. At length he began in a husky tone of voice, and slowly and impressively delivered his farewell to his neighbors. Imitating his example, every man in the crowd stood with his head uncovered in the fast-falling rain.' "—Complete Works of Abraham Lincoln, new and enl. ed., ed. John G. Nicolay and John Hay, vol. 6, p. 110 (1905).

Presidency

My view was that every executive officer, and above all every executive officer in high position, was a steward of the people bound actively and affirmatively to do all he could for the people, and not to content himself with the negative merit of keeping his talents undamaged in a napkin. I declined to adopt the view that what was imperatively necessary for the Nation could not be done by the President unless he could find some specific authorization to do it. My belief was that it was not only his right but his duty to do anything that the needs of the Nation demanded unless such action was forbidden by the Constitution or by the laws. Under this interpretation of executive power I did and caused to be done many things not previously done by the President and the heads of the departments. I did not usurp power, but I did greatly broaden the use of executive power. In other words, I acted for the public welfare, I acted for the common well-being of all our people, whenever and in whatever manner was necessary, unless prevented by direct constitutional or legislative prohibition.

Theodore Roosevelt, Theodore Roosevelt, An Autobiography (vol. 20 of The Works of Theodore Roosevelt, national ed.), chapter 10, pp. 347-48 (1926).

Presidency

Our loyalty is due entirely to the United States. It is due to the President only and exactly to the degree in which he efficiently serves the United States. It is our duty to support him when he serves the United States well. It is our duty to oppose him when he serves it badly. This is true about Mr. Wilson now and it has been true about all our Presidents in the past. It is our duty at all times to tell the truth about the President and about every one else, save in the cases where to tell the truth at the moment would benefit the public enemy.

Theodore Roosevelt, "Lincoln and Free Speech," The Great Adventure (vol. 19 of The Works of Theodore Roosevelt, national ed.), chapter 7, p. 297 (1926).

Presidency

Representative William McK. Springer, remarks in the House, quoting Henry Clay: "As for me, I would rather be right than be President."

Reed: "Well, the gentleman will never be either."

Representative Thomas B. Reed.—Samuel W McCall, The Life of Thomas Brackett Reed, chapter 21, p. 246 (1914).

Presidency

The cheek of every American must tingle with shame as he reads the silly, flat, and dish-watery utterances of the man who has to be pointed out to intelligent foreigners as President of the United States.

Attributed to The Chicago Times, following President Abraham Lincoln's address at Gettysburg on November 19, 1863.—Carl Sandburg, Abraham Lincoln: The War Years, vol. 2, p. 472 (1939); no date of issue for the Times is given. This quotation also appears in Robert S. Harper, Lincoln and the Press, chapter 33, p. 287 (1951), but he also gives no specific date for the Times, citing only Sandburg. This same quotation and attribution is used in Gore Vidal, Lincoln, part 3, chapter 2, p. 494 (1984, reprinted 1985). This quotation could not be found in The Chicago Times, November 20-25, 1863.

Presidency

The legislative job of the President is especially important to the people who have no special representatives to plead their cause before Congress—and that includes the great majority. I sometimes express it by saying the President is the only lobbyist that one hundred and fifty million Americans have. The other twenty million are able to employ people to represent them—and that's all right, it's the exercise of the right of petition—but someone has to look after the interests of the one hundred and fifty million that are left.

Harry S. Truman,

speech to the Press and Union League Club,

San Francisco, California, October 25, 1956.

—Transcript, pp. 19-20.

Presidency

The Presidency is not merely an administrative office. That's the least of it. It is more than an engineering job, efficient or inefficient. It is pre-eminently a place of moral leadership. All our great Presidents were leaders of thought at times when certain historic ideas in the life of the nation had to be clarified.

Franklin D. Roosevelt, governor of New York, as reported by The New York Times Magazine, September 11, 1932, p. 2.

Presidency

The President can exercise no power which cannot be fairly and reasonably traced to some specific grant of power…in the Federal Constitution or in an act of Congress passed in pursuance thereof. There is no undefined residuum of power which he can exercise because it seems to him to be in the public interest.

William Howard Taft, Our Chief Magistrate and His Powers, chapter 6, pp. 139-40 (1916).

Presidency

The President is merely the most important among a large number of public servants. He should be supported or opposed exactly to the degree which is warranted by his good conduct or bad conduct, his efficiency or inefficiency in rendering loyal, able, and disinterested service to the nation as a whole. Therefore it is absolutely necessary that there should be full liberty to tell the truth about his acts, and this means that it is exactly as necessary to blame him when he does wrong as to praise him when he does right. Any other attitude in an American citizen is both base and servile. To announce that there must be no criticism of the President, or that we are to stand by the President, right or wrong, is not only unpatriotic and servile, but is morally treasonable to the American public. Nothing but the truth should be spoken about him or any one else. But it is even more important to tell the truth, pleasant or unpleasant, about him than about any one else.

Theodore Roosevelt, "Lincoln and Free Speech," The Great Adventure (vol. 19 of The Works of Theodore Roosevelt, national ed.), chapter 7, p. 289 (1926).

Presidency

The President must be greater than anyone else, but not better than anyone else. We subject him and his family to close and constant scrutiny and denounce them for things that we ourselves do every day. A Presidential slip of the tongue, a slight error in judgment—social, political, or ethical—can raise a storm of protest. We give the President more work than a man can do, more responsibility than a man should take, more pressure than a man can bear. We abuse him often and rarely praise him. We wear him out, use him up, eat him up. And with all this, Americans have a love for the President that goes beyond loyalty or party nationality; he is ours, and we exercise the right to destroy him.

John Steinbeck, America and Americans, p. 46 (1966).

Presidency

The second office of this government is honorable & easy, the first is but a splendid misery.

Vice President Thomas Jefferson, letter to Elbridge Gerry, May 13, 1797.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Paul L. Ford, vol. 7, p. 120 (1896).

Presidency

There has been a lot of talk lately about the burdens of the Presidency. Decisions that the President has to make often affect the lives of tens of millions of people around the world, but that does not mean that they should take longer to make. Some men can make decisions and some cannot. Some men fret and delay under criticism. I used to have a saying that applies here, and I note that some people have picked it up, "If you can't stand the heat, get out of the kitchen."

Harry S. Truman,

Mr Citizen, p. 229 (1960).

Presidency

When contemplating General Eisenhower winning the Presidential election, Truman said, "He'll sit here, and he'll say, 'Do this! Do that!' And nothing will happen. Poor Ike—it won't be a bit like the Army. He'll find it very frustrating."

Harry S Truman.—Richard E. Neustadt, Presidential Power, the Politics of Leadership, p. 9 (1960).

Presidency

When I am the candidate, I run the campaign.

President Richard M. Nixon, remarks during an interview with representatives of the television networks, January 4, 1971.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Richard Nixon, 1971, p. 21.

Presidency

Yes, Haven, most of us enjoy preaching, and I've got such a bully pulpit!

President Theodore Roosevelt, reply to George Haven Putnam, who had accused him of a tendency to preaching, sometime during his first presidential term.—George Haven Putnam, introductory essay, The Works of Theodore Roosevelt, national ed., vol. 9, p. x (1926).

Presidency

You have heard the story, haven't you, about the man who was tarred and feathered and carried out of town on a rail? A man in the crowd asked him how he liked it. His reply was that if it was not for the honor of the thing, he would much rather walk.

President Abraham Lincoln, response to a friend from Springfield asking how he liked being president, c. 1861.—Emanuel Hertz, Lincoln Talks: A Biography in Anecdote, pp. 258-59 (1939).

Presidency

You know, the greatest epitaph in the country is here in Arizona. It's in Tombstone Ariz., and this epitaph says, "Here lies Jack Williams. He done his damnedest." I think that is the greatest epitaph a man could have. Whenever a man does the best he can, then that is all he can do; and that is what your President has been trying to do for the last 3 years for this country.

President Harry S. Truman, remarks in Winslow, Arizona, June 15, 1948.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Harry S. Truman, 1948, p. 356.

Presidency

[Hoover was the greatest engineer in the world since] he had drained, ditched, and damned the United States in three years.

Attributed to a Kansas farmer.—Roy Victor Peel, The 1932 Campaign, p. 56 (1935, reprinted 1973).

Press

But none of the means of information are more sacred, or have been cherished with more tenderness and care by the settlers of America, than the press. Care has been taken that the art of printing should be encouraged, and that it should be easy and cheap and safe for any person to communicate his thoughts to the public. And you, Messieurs printers, whatever the tyrants of the earth may say of your paper, have done important service to your country by your readiness and freedom in publishing the speculations of the curious. The stale, impudent insinuations of slander and sedition with which the gormandizers of power have endeavored to discredit your paper are so much the more to your honor; for the jaws of power are always opened to devour, and her arm is always stretched out, if possible, to destroy the freedom of thinking, speaking, and writing.

John Adams

Dissertation on the Canon and the Feudal Law, 1765.

Press

Government has an obligation not to inhibit the collection and dissemination of news….I'm convinced that if reporters should ever lose the right to protect the confidentiality of their sources then serious investigative reporting will simply dry up. The kind of resourceful, probing journalism that first exposed most of the serious scandals, corruption and injustice in our nation's history would simply disappear…. And let me tell you, reading about one's failings in the daily papers is one of the privileges of high office in this free country of ours.

Nelson A. Rockefeller, governor of New York, speech to the Anti-Defamation League, Syracuse, New York, November 29, 1972, as reported by The New York Times, November 30, 1972, pp. 1, 86.

Press

In America the President reigns for four years, and Journalism governs for ever and ever.

Oscar Wilde, "The Soul of Man Under Socialism," The Works of Oscar Wilde, ed. G. F. Maine, p. 1033 (1954).

Press

The press, important as is its office, is but the servant of human intellect and its ministry is for good or evil, according to the character of those who direct it. The press is a mill that grinds all that is put into its hopper. Fill the hopper with poisoned grain and it will grind it to meal, but there is death in the bread.

William Cullen Bryant

Prose writings, II, The Newspaper Press.

Press

The Press, my Lords, is one of our great out-sentries; if we remove it, if we hoodwink it, if we throw it in fetters, the enemy may surprise us.

Thomas Erskine (1750-1823)

Defense of Thomas Paine (December 20, 1792)

Press

To the press alone, chequered as it is with abuses, the world is indebted for all the triumphs which have been gained by reason and humanity over error and oppression.

James Madison, "Report on the Resolutions," The Writings of James Madison, ed. Gaillard Hunt, vol. 6, p. 389 (1906).This report of the resolutions of the Virginia House of Delegates in 1799 was submitted by a committee headed by Madison and is widely known as the Virginia Report of 1799.

Press

Well, I am reading more and enjoying it less— [laughter]—and so on, but I have not complained nor do I plan to make any general complaints. I read and talk to myself about it, but I don't plan to issue any general statement on the press. I think that they are doing their task, as a critical branch, the fourth estate. And I am attempting to do mine. And we are going to live together for a period, and then go our separate ways. [Laughter].

President John F. Kennedy, when asked to comment on the press in general, news conference, May 9, 1962.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: John F Kennedy, 1962, p. 376 (1963).

Press

Whenever the press quits abusing me I know I'm in the wrong pew. I don't mind it because when they throw bricks at me—I'm a pretty good shot myself and I usually throw 'em back at 'em.

Harry S. Truman, speech at a dinner in his honor, Washington, D.C., February 22, 1958.—Text as recorded by The New York Times, February 23, 1958, p. 46.

Pretension

Pretension almost always overdoes the original, and hence exposes itself.

Hosea Ballou

Pride

Small things make base men proud.

William Shakespeare

King Henry VI, II, IV, I, 106

Pride

…whatever the divine Providence permitted to occur, I was not too proud to report.

Charles A. Dana (1819-1897)

Editorial, Reprinted In Last Issue, New York Sun

Pride

But what madness must it be to run in debt for these superfluities! ( (clothing for appearance))

Benjamin Franklin

Pride

Fond pride of dress is sure a very curse;

E'er fancy you consult, consult your purse.

Benjamin Franklin

Pride

For pryde goeth before and shame cometh after.

John Heywood

Pride

He that is proud eats up himself; pride is his own glass, his own trumpet, his own chronicle.

William Shakespeare

Troilus and Cressida, II, iii, 165

Pride

He who is wrapped up in himself makes a mighty small package.

Author Unknown

Pride

How apt the poor are to be proud.

William Shakespeare

Twelfth-Night, III, i, 141

Pride

I must dispel vanity with vanity.

Quintus Septimius Tertullian

Adversus Marcionem, IV, 30

Pride

I pray God to keep me from being proud.

Samuel Pepys

Pride

It is better to sink in the sea than to sink among men.

Mencius

Pride

It is the mountaintop that the lightning strikes.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Odes, II, x, 11

Pride

Let us raise a somewhat loftier strain.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Elogues, IV, 1

Pride

Likeness begets Love; yet proud Men hate one another.

Thomas Fuller

Pride

Of what use is this pride of appearance, for which so much is risked, so much is suffered? It cannot promote health, or ease pain; it makes no increase of merit in the person; it creates envy, it hastens misfortune.

Benjamin Franklin

Pride

One may be humble out of pride.

Michel Eyquem de Montaigne

Essays, II, 17

Pride

One of the best temporary cures for pride and affectation is sea-sickness; a man who wants to vomit never puts on airs.

Josh Billings

Pride

Pride breakfasted with plenty, dined with poverty, and supped with infamy.

Benjamin Franklin

Pride

Pride is as loud a beggar as want, and a great deal more saucy.

Benjamin Franklin

Pride

Pride is therefore pleasure arising from a man's thinking too highly of himself.

Benedict Spinoza

Pride

Pride that dines on vanity sups on contempt.

Benjamin Franklin

Pride

Pride will have a fall.

English Proverb

Pride

Pride, Envy, and Avarice are the three sparks that have set these hearts on fire.

Dante

Pride

I TAKE PRIDE IN MY WORK

I'm a little fed up with the constant criticism of American workmanship. How other people do their jobs is their business. But I do good work and I know it. I have perfected my skills. I make each minute count. When I make a mistake I correct it. I would gladly sign my name to every piece of work I do. I'm going to hang this message over my work area to let my employer, my customers, my co-workers know that I take pride in my work.

United Technologies Corporation

Pride

Read but o'er the stories

Of men most fam'd for courage or for counsel,

And you shall find that the desire of glory

(That last infirmity of noble minds)

Was the last frailty wise men e'er put off.

John Fletcher (1579-1625)

Sir John Van Olden (1619), Act 1

Pride

There is a paradox in pride: it makes some men ridiculous, but prevents others from becoming so.

Charles Caleb Colton

Pride

There is, perhaps, no one of our natural passions so hard to subdue as Pride. Disguise it, struggle with it, beat it down, stifle it, mortify it as much as one pleases, it is still alive, and will every now and then peep out and show itself.

Benjamin Franklin

Pride

They come to see; they come that they themselves may be seen.

Ovid [Publius Ovidius Naso]

Ars Amatoria, I, 99

Pride

When a man gets too big for his britches, he usually needs a bigger hat as well.

Ann Landers

Pride

When you have bought one fine thing, you must buy ten more, that your appearance may be all of a piece.

Benjamin Franklin

Principles

He that lies with the dogs, riseth with fleas.

George Herbert

Jacula Prudentum, 343

Principles

If, on a full and final review, my life and practice shall be found unworthy of my principles, let due infamy be heaped on my memory; but let none be led thereby to distrust the principles to which I proved recreant, nor yet the ability of some to adorn them by a suitable life and conversation. To unerring time be all this committed.

Horace Greeley

Principles

Important principles may and must be flexible.

Abraham Lincoln

Principles

In matters of principle, stand like a rock; in matters of taste, swim with the current.

Thomas Jefferson

Principles

Nothing can bring you peace but the triumph of principles.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Principles

One element in the soul is irrational and one has a rational principle.

Aristotle

Nicomachean Ethics.

Principles

Search men's governing principles, and consider the wise, what they shun and what they cleave to.

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

Meditations, IV, 38

Principles

We may be personally defeated, but our principles never.

William Lloyd Garrison

Priorities

If you don't know where you are going, you will probably end up somewhere else.

Laurence J. Peter

Priorities

Nine-tenths of wisdom consists in being wise in scheduling time.

Theodore Roosevelt

Priorities

Men must decide on what they will not do, and then they are able to act with vigor in what they ought to do.

Mencius

Priorities

Never put that which matters most at the mercy of that which matters least.

Montaigne

Prisons

58. We must release ourselves from the prison of affairs and politics.

Epicurus (341-270 B.C.)

Fragments

Prisons

A prison taint was on everything there. The imprisoned air, the imprisoned light, the imprisoned damps, the imprisoned men, were all deteriorated by confinement. As the captive men were faded and haggard, so the iron was rusty, the stone was slimy, the wood was rotten, the air was faint, the light was dim. Like a well, like a vault, like a tomb, the prison had no knowledge of the brightness outside; and would have kept its polluted atmosphere intact, in one of the spice islands of the Indian Ocean.

Charles Dickens, Little Dorrit, ed. Harvey P. Sucksmith, book 1, chapter 1, pp. 2, 5 (1979). First published 1855-1857.

Prisons

Else a great Prince in prison lies.

John Donne

The Extasy, 68

Prisons

Mr. Emerson visited Thoreau at the jail, and the meeting between the two philosophers must have been interesting and somewhat dramatic. The account of the meeting was told me by Miss Maria Thoreau [Henry Thoreau's aunt]—"Henry, why are you here?" "Waldo, why are you not here?"

Attributed to Ralph Waldo Emerson and Henry David Thoreau.—Arthur Samuel Jones, Thoreau's Incarceration [As Told by His Jailer], p. 15 (1962).This exchange was supposed to have taken place on July 23 or 24, 1846, in the Concord, Massachusetts, jail where Thoreau was placed for nonpayment of poll taxes. There are many versions of this story, but Thoreau's account does not mention a visit by Emerson, in his Reform Papers, ed. Wendell Glick, pp. 79-84 (1973), so it is probably apocryphal.

Prisons

Nothing can be more abhorrent to democracy than to imprison a person or keep him in prison because he is unpopular. This is really the test of civilization.

Prime Minister Winston Churchill, letter to Home Secretary Herbert Morrison, November 21, 1943.—Churchill, Closing the Ring (vol. 5 of The Second World War), p. 679 (1951).

Prisons

The degree of civilization in a society can be judged by entering its prisons.

Attributed to Fyodor Dostoyevski. Unverified.

Prisons

Wherever anyone is against his will that is to him a prison.

Epictetus (c. 50-120 A.D.)

Discourses, Bk. IV

Privacy

All men whilst they are awake are in one common world; but each of them, when he is asleep, is in a world of his own.

Plutarch

Morals. Of Superstition

Privacy

Every man should know that his conversations, his correspondence, and his personal life are private. I have urged Congress—except when the Nation's security is at stake—to take action to that end.

President Lyndon B. Johnson, remarks at the swearing-in of Ramsey Clark as attorney general, March 10, 1967.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Lyndon B. Johnson, 1967, book 1, p. 313.

Privacy

Gentlemen do not read each other's mail.

Henry L. Stimson. As secretary of state under Herbert Hoover, Stimson closed the Department of State's code-breaking office, the so-called Black Chamber, in 1929. He later justified his action with this remark.—Stimson and McGeorge Bundy, On Active Service in Peace and War; p. 188 (1948). Also see David Kahn, The Codebreakers, p. 360 (1967).

Privacy

We are rapidly entering the age of no privacy, where everyone is open to surveillance at all times; where there are no secrets from government.

Justice William O. Douglas, dissenting, Osborn v. United States, 385 U.S. 341 (1966).

Problem Solving

Settle one difficulty, and you keep a hundred others away.

Confucius

Problem Solving

There's always an easy solution to every problem—neat, plausible and wrong.

Henry Mencken

Problem Solving

You would be surprised at the number of years it took me to see clearly what some of the problems were which had to be solved…looking back, I think it was more difficult to see what the problems were than to solve them.

Charles Darwin

Problems

After I had addressed myself to this very difficult and almost insoluble problem, the suggestion at length came to me how it could be solved…if some assumptions (which are called axioms) were granted me. They follow in this order:

1. There is no one center of all the celestial circles or spheres.

2. The center of the earth is not the center of the universe, but only of gravity and of the lunar sphere.

3. All the spheres revolve about the sun as their midpoint, and therefore the sun is the center of the universe….

Nicholas Copernicus (1473-1543)

Commentarioulus

Problems

If there is but little water in the stream, it is the fault, not of the channel, but of the source.

St. Jerome

Letter, 17

Problems

In such a strait the wisest may well be perplexed and the boldest staggered.

Edmund Burke

Problems

Most problems precisely defined are already partially solved.

Harry Lorayne

Problems

Not by speeches and decisions of majorities will the greatest problems of the time be decided—that was the mistake of 1848-49—but by iron and blood.

Otto von Bismarck-Schoenhausen

Impromptu speech to several ministers and deputies of the

Prussian House of Delegates, September 29, 1862.

Problems

Probe the earth and see where your main roots run.

Henry David Thoreau

Problems

There are no big problems, there are just a lot of little problems.

Henry Ford

Problems

We live in the midst of alarms; anxiety beclouds the future; we expect some new disaster with each newspaper we read.

Abraham Lincoln

Process

According to the ancient Chinese proverb, "A journey of a thousand miles must begin with a single step."

President John F. Kennedy,

radio and television address to the American

people on the nuclear test ban treaty, July 26, 1963.

—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States:

John F Kennedy, 1963, p. 606.

Process

Expositions are the timekeepers of progress.

President William Mckinley, speech delivered at the Pan-American Exposition, Buffalo, New York, September 5, 1901.—Modern Eloquence, ed. Ashley H. Thorndike, rev. Adam Ward, vol. II, p. 401 (1936).This was McKinley's last speech, as he was mortally wounded the next day at the Exposition. He served in Congress 1877-1884 and 1885-1891.

Process

I walk slowly, but I never walk backward.

Attributed to Abraham Lincoln.—Representative Everett M. Dirksen, remarks in the House, September 18, 1941, Congressional Record, vol. 87, p. 7479. Unverified in The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P. Basler (1953).He may have been paraphrasing this: "I hope to 'stand firm' enough to not go backward, and yet not go forward fast enough to wreck the country's cause."—President Lincoln, letter to Zachariah Chandler, November 20, 1863.—Collected Works, vol. 7, p. 24.

Process

Next came the Patent laws. These began in England in 1624; and, in this country, with the adoption of our constitution. Before then [these?], any man might instantly use what another had invented; so that the inventor had no special advantage from his own invention. The patent system changed this; secured to the inventor, for a limited time, the exclusive use of his invention; and thereby added the fuel of interest to the fire of genius, in the discovery and production of new and useful things.

Abraham Lincoln, second lecture on discoveries and inventions, delivered to the Phi Alpha Society of Illinois College at Jacksonville, Illinois, February 11, 1859.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P. Basler, vol. 3, p. 357 (1953).

Process

Our inventions are want to be pretty toys, which distract our attention from serious things. They are but improved means to an unimproved end,….We are in great haste to construct a magnetic telegraph from Maine to Texas; but Maine and Texas, it may be, have nothing important to communicate.

Henry David Thoreau, Walden, chapter 1, p.67 (1966). Originally published in 1854.

Process

The advancement of the arts from year to year taxes our credulity, and seems to presage the arrival of that period when human improvement must end.

Henry L. Ellsworth, U.S. commissioner of patents, Annual Report, p. 5 (1843).

Process

The chief cause which made the fusion of the different elements of society so imperfect was the extreme difficulty which our ancestors found in passing from place to place. Of all inventions, the alphabet and the printing press alone excepted, those inventions which abridge distance have done most for the civilisation of our species. Every improvement of the means of locomotion benefits mankind morally and intellectually as well as materially, and not only facilitates the interchange of the various productions of nature and art, but tends to remove national and provincial antipathies, and to bind together all the branches of the great human family.

Thomas Babington Macaulay, The History of England, 5th ed., vol. I, chapter 3, p. 370 (1849).

"Of all inventions, the alphabet and the printing press alone excepted, those inventions which abridge distance have done most for civilization" was inscribed on one side of the Golden Door of the Transportation Building at the World's Columbian Exposition, held in Chicago in 1893.

Process

The day of large profits is probably past. There may be room for further intensive, but not extensive, development of industry in the present area of civilization.

D. Carroll Wright, U.S. commissioner of labor.—Industrial Depressions, first annual report of the U.S. Bureau of Labor, 1885, chapter 3, p. 257. House Executive Doc. 49-1, part 5.

Process

Two conditions render difficult this historic situation of mankind: It is full of tremendously deadly armament, and it has not progressed morally as much as it has scientifically and technically.

Pope Paul VI, sermon at the Shrine of Fatima, Portugal, May 13, 1967, as reported by The New York Times, May 14, 1967, p. 47.

Procrastination

And while I at length debate and beat the bush,

There shall step in other men and catch the birds.

John Heywood

Proverbs, pt. I, ch. 3

Procrastination

Do it this very moment, Don't put it off, There's no use in doing a kindness, if you do it a day too late.

Author Unknown

Procrastination

Do little things now, so shall big things come to thee by an by asking to be done

Persian Proverb

Procrastination

Never put off till tomorrow what you can do today.

Thomas Jefferson

Procrastination

Procrastination is a sinful thing, It brings me so much sorrow, I can stop most anytime, No, I think I'll stop tomorrow.

Frands Peterson

Procrastination

The best-laid plans; the most important affairs; the fortunes of individuals; the weal of nations; honor; life itself; are daily sacrificed because somebody is 'behind time'. There are men who always fail in whatever they undertake simply because they are 'behind time'. There are others who put off reformation year by year; till death seizes them; and they perish unrepentant; because for ever 'behind time'. Five minutes in a crisis is worth years. It is but a little period; yet it has often saved a fortune or redeemed a people. If there is one virtue that should be cultivated more than another by him who would succeed in life; it is punctuality; if there is one error that should be avoided; it is 'behind time'.

Freeman Hunt

Procrastination

Tomorrow is often the busiest day of the week.

Author Unknown

Profanity

I pity the man who steals when he is hungry or when poverty is pinching his family. I can understand the power of the temptation to which he yields. I have sympathy for the man who drinks when a demon of thirst is at his throat and every drop of blood seems to be calling from rum. But the man who swears bites at a bare hook; and goes to hell like a fool.

Dr. S. F. Upham

Profit

He wins every hand who mingles profit with pleasure, by delighting and instructing the reader at the same time.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Epistles, III, 343

Profit

No man profiteth but by the loss of others.

Michel de Montaigne

Profit

Prefer a loss to a dishonest gain; the one brings pain at the moment; the other for all time.

Chilon

Profit

There is no way of keeping profits up but by keeping wages down.

David Ricardo

Profit

What is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?

The Bible (Matthew 16:26)

Progress

All progress is based upon the universal innate desire on the part of every organism to live beyond its income.

Samuel Butler

Note-Books.

Progress

First and foremost of the necessary means towards man's civilization we must name expansion. The need of expansion is as genuine an instinct in man as the need in a plant for the light, or the need in man himself for going upright….The love of liberty is simply the instinct in man for expansion.

Matthew Arnold

Preface, Mixed Essays, 1903.

Progress

If God had intended that man should go backward, he would have given him eyes in the back of his head.

Victor Hugo

Progress

If there is no struggle there is no progress.

Frederick Douglass (1817?-1895)

Progress

Most people are in favor of progress, it's the changes they don't like.

Author Unknown

Progress

Planned obsolescence is another word for progress.

James Jeffrey Roche

Progress

Progress, man's distinctive mark alone,

Not God's, and not the beasts': God is, they are,

Man partly is and wholly hopes to be.

Robert Browning

A Death in the Desert.

Progress

The sixth grade made my life successful by preparing me for the seventh and the seventh by preparing me for the eighth and so on. May it do the same for you.

Herbert Hoover

Progress

There is no point at which having arrived we can remain.

Author Unknown

Progress

Today's progress was yesterday's plan.

Author Unknown

Progress

You won't skid if you stay in a rut.

Kin Hubbard

Promises

All men have a feeling, that they would rather you told them a civil lie than give them a point blank refusal…. If you make a promise, the thing is still uncertain, depends on a future day, and concerns but few people; but if you refuse you alienate people to a certainty and at once, and many people too.

Quintus Tullius Cicero, "On Standing for the Consulship,' section 12.—The Treatises of M. T Cicero, trans. C. D. Yonge, pp. 499, 500 (1872).This work, also known as the "Handbook of Electioneering," was addressed to Marcus Tullius Cicero, the author's brother. Another translation of the passage is: "Human nature being what it is, all men prefer a false promise to a flat refusal. At the worst the man to whom you have lied may be angry. That risk, if you make a promise, is uncertain and deferred, and it affects only a few. But if you refuse you are sure to offend many, and that at once. "—H. J. Haskell, The New Deal in Old Rome, p. 169 (1939).

Promises

But not the first Illusion, the new earth,

The march upon the solitary fire,

The casting of the dice of death and birth

Against a giant, for a blind desire,

The stream uncrossed, the promise still untried,

The metal sleeping in the mountainside.

Stephen Vincent Benet, Western Star, prelude, section 3, stanza 6, pp. 7-8 (1943). The last two lines were quoted by Senator George McGovern in his remarks nominating R. Sargent Shriver as his vice presidential running mate on the Democratic ticket, in a television address from the Capitol, August 5, 1972.

Promises

He who is most slow in making a promise is the most faithful in its performance.

Jean Jacques Rousseau

Promises

How useless oaths are has been shown by experience, for every judge will bear me out when I say that no oath has ever yet made any criminal speak the truth; and the same thing is shown by reason, which declares all laws to be useless, and consequently injurious which are opposed to the natural sentiments of man.

Cesare Bonesana di Beccaria

Dei Delitti e delle Pene (On Crimes and Punishments), 1764.

Promises

Promises and Pye-Crusts,…are made to be broken.

Jonathan Swift,

"Polite Conversation,"

The Prose Works of Jonathan Swift,

ed. Herbert Davis, vol. 4, p. 146 (1957).

Promises

The Great Spirit placed me and my people on this land poor and naked. When the white men came we gave them lands, and did not wish to hurt them. But the white man drove us back and took our lands. Then the Great Father [president] made us many promises, but they are not kept. He promised to give us large presents, and when they came to us they were small; they seemed to be lost on the way.

Sioux Indian Chief Red Cloud,

speech at the Council of Peace,

New York City, June 15, 1870,

as reported by The New York Times,

June 16, 1870, p. 2.

Promises

We must not promise what we ought not, lest we be called on to perform what we cannot.

Attributed to Abraham Lincoln, speech delivered before the first Republican state convention of Illinois, Bloomington, Illinois, May 29, 1856.—The Writings of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Arthur B. Lapsley, vol. 2, p. 249 (1905).This version of the speech has been questioned because it was reconstructed by Henry C. Whitney, who made notes at the time but did not write it out until 1896. He did not claim that it was literally correct, only that he had followed the argument and that in many cases the sentences were as Lincoln spoke them. The only contemporary account of the so-called "Lost Speech" was a brief report in the Alton, Illinois, Weekly Courier; June 5, 1856, which does not contain this sentence.

Some historians believe the Whitney reconstruction "is not…worthy of serious consideration."—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P Basler, vol. 2, p. 341 (1953).

Promises

Never promise more than you can perform.

Publilius Syrus

Promises

Promises are like crying babies in a theater, they should be carried out at once.

Norman Vincent Peale

Promises

The woods are lovely, dark and deep, but I have promises to keep and miles to go before I sleep.

Robert Frost

Property

All men are created equally free and independent, and have certain inherent rights…among which are the enjoyment of life and liberty, with the means of acquiring and possessing property.

George Mason

Property

As a man is said to have a right to his property, he may be equally said to have a property in his rights.

James Madison, "Property," National Gazette, March 29, 1792.—The Writings of James Madison, ed. Gaillard Hunt, vol. 6, p. 101 (1906). These words are inscribed in the Madison Memorial Hall, Library of Congress James Madison Memorial Building.

Property

But above all, a prince must refrain from taking property, for men forget the death of a father more quickly than the loss of their patrimony.

Niccolo Machiavelli

Property

Collective property and individual property, these two banners will be the standards under which, from now on, the great battles of the future will be ought.

Mikhail A. Bakunin

Gesammelte Werke, II, 67.

Property

Give a man the secure possession of a bleak rock, and he will turn it into a garden; give him a nine years lease of a garden, and he will convert it into a desert.'….The magic of PROPERTY turns sand to gold.

Arthur Young, journal entries for July 30 and November 7, 1787, Travels…, 2d ed., vol. 1, pp. 51, 88 (1794, reprinted 1970).

Property

I would suggest the taxation of all property equally whether church or corporation.

Ulysses S. Grant

Property

In every society where property exists there will ever be a struggle between rich and poor. Mixed in one assembly, equal laws can never be expected; they will either be made by the member to plunder the few who are rich, or by the influence to fleece the many who are poor.

John Adams

Quoted by Senator Estes Kefauver, with the remark: "A remarkable anticipation

of the basic presumption of Marxism."

Property

Man should not consider his material possession his own, but as common to all, so as to share them without hesitation when others are in need.

St. Thomas Aquinas

Summa Theologica.

Property

Private property…is the creature of society and is subject to the calls of that society even to the last farthing.

Benjamin Franklin

Property

Property hath no rights. The earth is the Lord's, and we are his offspring. The pagans hold earth as property. They do blaspheme God.

St. Ambrose

Property

Property in land is as indefensible as property in man.

Henry George (1839-1897)

Protection or Free Trade (1886)

Property

Property is the fruit of labor: property is desirable; it is a positive good.

Abraham Lincoln

Property

Property is the fruit of labor—property is desirable——is a positive good in the world. That some should be rich, shows that others may become rich, and hence is just encouragement to industry and enterprize. Let not him who is houseless pull down the house of another; but let him labor diligently and build one for himself, thus by example assuring that his own shall be safe from violence when built.

President Abraham Lincoln, reply to New York Workingmen's Democratic Republican Association, March 21, 1864.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P. Basler, vol. 7, p. 259-60 (1953).

Property

Property is the right to enjoy and dispose of things in the most absolute manner.

France (Official and semi-official)

Code Napoléon, Art. 544

Property

The freest government, if it could exist, would not be long acceptable, if the tendency of the laws were to create a rapid accumulation of property in few hands, and to render the great mass of the population dependent and penniless. In such a case, the popular power would be likely to break in upon the rights of property, or else the influence of property to limit and control the exercise of popular power. Universal suffrage, for example, could not long exist in a community where there was great inequality of property…. In the nature of things, those who have not property, and see their neighbors possess much more than they think them to need, cannot be favorable to laws made for the protection of property. When this class becomes numerous, it grows clamorous. It looks on property as its prey and plunder, and is naturally ready, at all times, for violence and revolution.

Daniel Webster, "First Settlement of New England," speech delivered at Plymouth, Massachusetts, December 22, 1820, to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth.—The Writings and Speeches of Daniel Webster, vol. 1, p. 214 (1903).Webster served in Congress as a representative from New Hampshire, 1813-1817, and from Massachusetts, 1823-1827, and as a senator from Massachusetts, 1827-1841 and 1845-1850.

Property

The man who has half a million dollars in property…has a much higher interest in the government than the man who has little or no property.

Noah Webster

Property

The moment the idea is admitted into society that property is not as sacred as the laws of God, and there is not a force of law and public justice to protect it, anarchy and tyranny commence.

John Adams

Letter, quoted in Fortune, February, 1951.

Property

The moment the idea is admitted into society that property is not as sacred as the laws of God…anarchy and tyranny commence.

John Adams

Property

The power of perpetuating our property in our families is one of the most valuable and interesting circumstances belonging to it, and that which tends the most to the perpetuation of society itself.

Edmund Burke

Property

The reason why men enter into society is the preservation of their property.

John Locke

Property

Who is master of Bohemia is master of Europe.

Attributed to Otto Von Bismarck. Unverified.While this statement has frequently been quoted, it cannot be found in the official writings and pronouncements of Bismarck. It is possible that he said it, and it was passed on orally rather than being recorded, or that he expressed the sentiment in other terms and the idea took this form as others tried to quote him.

Prosperity

Prosperity is only an instrument to be used, not a deity to be worshipped.

Calvin Coolidge

Proverbs

A proverb is a short sentence based on long experience.

Author Unknown

Prudence

Prudence will carry a man all over the world, but the impetuous will find every step difficult.

Lao Tse

Public Affairs

An Athenian citizen does not neglect the state because he takes care of his own household; and even those of us who are engaged in business have a very fair idea of politics. We alone regard a man who takes no interest in public affairs, not as a harmless, but as a useless character, and if few of us are originators, we are all sound judges of a policy.

Thucydides, "Funeral Speech of Pericles," book 2, section 40.—Thucydides Translated into English, 2d ed., trans. Benjamin Jowett, vol. 1, pp. 129-30 (1900).

Public Affairs

My rule, in which I have always found satisfaction, is, never to turn aside in public affairs through views of private interest; but to go straight forward in doing what appears to me right at the time, leaving the consequences with Providence.

Benjamin Franklin, letter to Mrs. Jane Mecom, December 30, 1770.—The Works of Benjamin Franklin, ed. Jared Sparks, vol. 7, p. 497 (1838).

Public Opinion

Heroes are created by popular demand, sometimes out of the scantiest materials, or none at all.

Gerald W. Johnson, American Heroes and Hero-Worship, p. 11 (1943).

Public Opinion

I had grown tired of standing in the lean and lonely front line facing the greatest enemy that ever confronted man—public opinion.

Clarence Darrow, The Story of My Life, p. 232 (1932).

Public Opinion

If ever the multitude deviate into the right, it is always for the wrong reason.

Philip Dormer Stanhope,

Fourth Earl of Chesterfield

The Letters of Lord Chesterfield, 1892, 623.

Public Opinion

In the United States today, we have more than our share of the nattering nabobs of negativism. They have formed their own 4-H Club—the "hopeless, hysterical hyponchondriacs of history."

Vice President Spiro T. Agnew, address to the California Republican state convention, San Diego, California, September 11, 1970.—Congressional Record, September 16, 1970, vol. 116, p. 32017.

William Safire, then a speechwriter for President Nixon, was the author of "nattering nabobs of negativism," according to The Washingtonian, March 1985, p. 11, and The Washington Post, August 27, 1987, p. C4.

Public Opinion

In this and like communities, public sentiment is everything. With public sentiment, nothing can fail; without it nothing can succeed.

Abraham Lincoln, reply in the first debate with Senator Stephen A. Douglas, Ottawa, Illinois, August 21, 1858.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P Basler, vol. 3, p. 27 (1953).

Public Opinion

Nothing is more dangerous in wartime than to live in the temperamental atmosphere of a Gallup Poll, always feeling one's pulse and taking one's temperature. I see that a speaker at the week-end said that this was a time when leaders should keep their ears to the ground. All I can say is that the British nation will find it very hard to look up to leaders who are detected in that somewhat ungainly posture.

Prime Minister Winston Churchill, speech, House of Commons, September 30, 1941.—Winston S. Churchill: His Complete Speeches, 1897-1963, ed. Robert Rhodes James, vol. 6, p. 6495 (1974).

Public Opinion

Private opinion creates public opinion. Public opinion overflows eventually into national behaviour and national behaviour, as things are arranged at present, can make or mar the world. That is why private opinion, and private behaviour, and private conversation are so terrifyingly important.

Jan Struther (Joyce Anstruther), "The Weather of the World," A Pocketful of Pebbles, p. 341 (1946).

Public Opinion

What news? Ma foi!

The tiger has broken out of his den.

The monster was three days at sea.

The wretch has landed at Frejus.

The Brigand has arrived at Antibes.

The Invader has reached Grenoble.

The General has entered Lyons.

Napoleon slept last night at Fontainebleau.

The Emperor proceeds to the Tuileries today.

His Imperial Majesty will address his loyal subjects tomorrow.

Author unknown.—Louis Cohen, Napoleonic Anecdotes, p. 229 (1925).

Token from a skit of 1815, this purports to show how Napoleon's return from Elba was progressively regarded in Paris.

Public Service

A private Life is to be preferr'd; the Honour and Gain of publick Posts, bearing no proportion with the Comfort of it.

William Penn, Some Fruits of Solitude in Reflections & Maxims, no. 370, p. 73 (1903, reprinted 1976).

Public Service

I am not influenced by the expectation of promotion or pecuniary reward. I wish to be useful, and every kind of service necessary for the public good, becomes honorable by being necessary.

Captain Nathan Hale, remark to his friend, Captain William Hull, who attempted to dissuade him from volunteering for spy duty, early September 1776.—Isaac William Stuart, Life of Captain Nathan Hale, p. 94 (1856).While General Washington desperately needed someone to provide information on the strength and location of the enemy, he could not command someone to be a spy. He needed a paid spy or a volunteer. Hale was the sole volunteer. At the end of his mission, Hale was captured by the British and hanged on September 22, 1776. He was twenty-one years old.

Public Service

I made my mistakes, but in all of my years in public life, I have never profited, never profited from public service—I have earned every cent. And in all of my years of public life, I have never obstructed justice. And I think, too, that I could say that in my years of public life, that I welcome this kind of examination, because people have got to know whether or not their President is a crook. Well, I am not a crook. I have earned everything I have got.

President Richard M. Nixon, televised question and answer session at the annual convention of the Associated Press Managing Editors Association, Orlando, Florida, November 17, 1973.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Richard Nixon, 1973, p. 956.

Public Service

In government offices which are sensitive to the vehemence and passion of mass sentiment public men have no sure tenure. They are in effect perpetual office seekers, always on trial for their political lives, always required to court their restless constituents. They are deprived of their independence. Democratic politicians rarely feel they can afford the luxury of telling the whole truth to the people. And since not telling it, though prudent, is uncomfortable, they find it easier if they themselves do not have to hear too often too much of the sour truth. The men under them who report and collect the news come to realize in their turn that it is safer to be wrong before it has become fashionable to be right.

Walter Lippmann, Essays in the Public Philosophy, p. 26 (1935).

Public Service

Our form of government does not enter into rivalry with the institutions of others. We do not copy our neighbours, but are an example to them. It is true that we are called a democracy, for the administration is in the hands of the many and not of the few. But while the law secures equal justice to all alike in their private disputes, the claim of excellence is also recognised; and when a citizen is in any way distinguished, he is preferred to the public service, not as a matter of privilege, but as the reward of merit. Neither is poverty a bar, but a man may benefit his country whatever be the obscurity of his condition.

Thucydides, "Funeral Speech of Pericles," Thucydides, trans. Benjamin Jowett, 2d ed., rev., vol. 1, book 2, section 37, pp. 127-28 (1900).

Public Service

Shortly after I was elected, in Nineteen Hundred and Forty-eight, I made up my mind that I would not seek another term. I have seen a great many men in public life, and one of their besetting sins is to stay in office too long. Nowadays, in such organizations as the Army and the civil service and industry, there is compulsory retirement, but no such regulations prevail in politics. I decided that I would not be guilty of this common failing, and that I should make way for younger men—and the Constitutional Amendment Number twenty-two, the two-term amendment, does not apply to me. The people responsible for the 22nd amendment thought I was not worth considering and that I'd be beaten in 1948—so I was exempted.

Harry S. Truman, speech to the Press and Union League Club, San Francisco, California, October 25, 1956.—Transcript, p. 30. The last sentence was added in longhand to the typewritten speech. Truman had made similar remarks at a political rally in John Hancock Hall, Boston, Massachusetts, September 29, 1956, as reported by The Boston Sunday Globe, September 30, 1956, p. 38: "There is an old girl called Anno Domini that catches up with us and she has been trying to catch up with me. It just seems to me to make sense to move on and make way for younger men. It seems to me to make sense to move out of the White House voluntarily without waiting to be carried out."

Public Service

The office should seek the man, not man the office.

Attributed to Silas Wright.—Edward Parsons Day, Day's Collacon, p. 684 (1884). Unverified.According to biographies, this is in character. Wright was a nineteenth century representative and senator from New York, and served as governor of New York. In 1844, he declined a Supreme Court appointment, refused to be considered for the presidential nomination and declined, when nominated, to be a candidate for the vice presidency.—Dictionary of American Biography, vol. 10, part 2, p. 556.

Public Service

The weakling and the coward are out of place in a strong and free community. In a republic like ours the governing class is composed of the strong men who take the trouble to do the work of government; and if you are too timid or too fastidious or too careless to do your part in this work, then you forfeit your right to be considered one of the governing and you become one of the governed instead—one of the driven cattle of the political arena.

President Theodore Roosevelt, address at the Harvard Union, Cambridge, Massachusetts, February 23, 1907.—"Athletics, Scholarship and Public Service," The Strenuous Life (vol. 13 of The Works of Theodore Roosevelt, national ed.), chapter 27, p. 563 (1926).

Public Service

There is no cause half so sacred as the cause of a people. There is no idea so uplifting as the idea of the service of humanity.

Woodrow Wilson, governor of New Jersey, presidential campaign address, Madison Square Garden, New York City, October 31, 1912.—The Papers of Woodrow Wilson, ed. Arthur S. Link, vol. 25, p. 493 (1978).Wilson spoke to an audience estimated at between 12,000 and 16,000 persons. For two hours before he arrived, the crowd listened to various other speakers. Upon his arrival there was a "tumultuous ovation which lasted for more than an hour. Wilson was so moved that he forgot his prepared speech" (p. 493, footnote).

Public Service

We believe above all else that those who hold in their hands the power of government must themselves be independent—and this kind of independence means the wisdom, the experience, the courage to identify the special interests and the pressures that are always at work, to see the public interest steadily, to resist its subordination no matter what the political hazards.

Adlai E. Stevenson, governor of Illinois, speech before the Colorado Volunteers—for Stevenson dinner, Denver, Colorado, September 5, 1952.—Speeches of Adlai Stevenson, p. 23 (1952).

Public Service

We must not in the course of public life expect immediate approbation and immediate grateful acknowledgment of our services. But let us persevere through abuse and even injury. The internal satisfaction of a good conscience is always present, and time will do us justice in the minds of the people, even those at present the most prejudiced against us.

Benjamin Franklin, letter to Joseph Galloway, December 2, 1772.—The Works of Benjamin Franklin, ed. Jared Sparks, vol. 8, p. 23 (1839).

Public Service

When a man assumes a public trust, he should consider himself as public property.

Attributed to Thomas Jefferson.—B. L. Rayner, Life of Thomas Jefferson, p. 356 (1834).Rayner says the remark was made during a conversation in the president's office with Baron Alexander von Humboldt, the celebrated naturalist and traveler.

Public Speaking

Continued eloquence is wearisome.

Blaise Pascal

Public Speaking

It is not sufficient to know what one ought to say, but one must also know how to say it.

Aristotle

Rhetoric

Publicity

I would rather quit public life at seventy, and quit it forever, than to retain public life at a sacrifice to my own self-respect. I will not vote for any law which will make fair for me and foul for another. The blacklist is the most cruel form of oppression ever devised by man for the infliction of suffering upon his weaker fellows.

Speaker of the House Joseph A. Cannon, speech opposing the Pearre Injunction Bill, 1906.—L. White Busby, Uncle Joe Cannon, p. 278 (1927).Cannon noted that Samuel Gompers blacklisted him for opposing the legislation. "Uncle Joe" Cannon, who was Speaker of the House 1903-1911, served in the House for 46 years.

Cannon expanded this passage in a speech in Lewiston, Maine, September 5, 1906, while successfully campaigning for Representative Charles Littlefield, to counter efforts of Gompers and his labor forces to defeat Littlefield. Here, he said,"…any law which will make fish of one and fowl of another."—Joseph G. Cannon papers, box 1, Illinois State Historical Library, Springfield, Illinois.

Publicity

Publicity is justly commended as a remedy for social and industrial diseases. Sunlight is said to be the best of disinfectants; electric light the most efficient policeman.

Louis D. Brandeis, "What Publicity Can Do," Other People's Money, chapters, p. 92 (1932). First published in Harper's Weekly, December 20, 1913.

Publishing/Publishers

No author is a man of genius to his publisher.

Heinrich Heine

Publishing/Publishers

Publishers are demons, there's no doubt about it.

William James

Punctuality

At no time are people so sedulously careful to keep their trifling appointments, attend to their ordinary occupations, and thus put a commonplace aspect on life, as when conscious of some secret that if suspected would make them look monstrous in the general eye.

Nathaniel Hawthorne

Punctuality

Better late than never.

Livy

Punctuality

I could never think well of a man's intellectual or moral character if he was habitually unfaithful to his appointments.

Author Unknown

Punctuality

I owe all my success in life to having been quarter hour before time.

Thomas Jefferson

Punctuality

Want of punctuality is an unpardonable sin.

Cornelius Vanderbilt

Punishment

All punishment is mischief. All punishment of itself is evil.

Jeremy Bentham

Principles of Morals and Legislation.

Punishment

An ever-burning gehenna will burn up the condemned, and a punishment devouring with living flames; nor will there be any source whence at any time they may have either respite or end to their torments.

St. Cyprian (200-beheaded 258), Bishop of Carthage

Letter to Demetrianus, proconsul of Africa

Punishment

Censure pardons the raven, but is visited upon the dove.

Decimus Junius Juvenal

Satires, II, 63

Punishment

If God should punish men according to what they deserve, he would not leave on the back of the earth so much as a beast.

The Koran

Chapter 35

Punishment

Punishment is justice for the unjust.

St. Augustine

Punishment

The Erinyes, who exact punishment of men underground if one swears a false oath.

Homer

The Iliad, XIX, 259

Purity

I pray Thee, O God, that I may be beautiful within.

Socrates

Purity

My strength is as the strength of ten because my heart is pure.

Alfred Lord Tennyson

Purity

Purity in person and in morals is true godliness.

Hosea Ballou

Purity

The water we drink has to be purified, but look at the trash we feed our minds.

Author Unknown

Quality

No quality assurance program, whether it be voluntary or imposed can correct frequent mistakes and unreliable performance introduced by insufficient training, inadequate laboratory environment, and poor administrative practices.

William Horwitz

Quality

Quality will be prized as a precious possession.

Author Unknown

Quality

You have already failed if you need a lot of inspectors.

Author Unknown

Quarrels

When two quarrel, both are in the wrong.

Author Unknown

Questions

…and it may be a question whether machinery does not encumber, whether we have not lost by refinement some energy, by a Christianity, entrenched in establishments and forms, some vigor of wild virtue. For every Stoic was a Stoic; but in Christendom where is the Christian?

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Essays: First Series (1841)

Questions

It is not every question that deserves an answer.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 581

Questions

Judge a man by his questions rather than by his answers.

Voltaire

Questions

The question is this: Is man an ape or an angel? I, my lord, I am on the side of the angels. I repudiate with abhorrence these new-fangled theories.

Benjamin Disraeli (Earl of Beaconsfield) (1804-1881)

Address to the SIESL of the oxford Diocese (November 25, 1864)

Questions

There are three great questions which in life we have over and over again to answer: Is it right or wrong? Is it true or false? Is it beautiful or ugly? Our education ought to help us to answer these questions.

John Lubbock

Quotations/Quoting

"The retort courteous."…"the quip modest."…"the reproof valiant"…"the countercheck quarrelsome."…"the lie circumstantial," and "the lie direct."

William Shakespeare

As You Like It, V, iv, 75

Quotations/Quoting

'Tis ill talking of halters in the house of a man that was hanged.

Miguel de Cervantes

Don Quixote, Pt. I, III, 11, 195

Quotations/Quoting

'Tis Pity She's a Whore.

John Ford

Title of Play

Quotations/Quoting

By all the eagle in thee, all the dove.

Richard Crashaw

The Flaming Heart Upon the Book of Saint Teresa, 95

Quotations/Quoting

Our fathers were Englishmen which came over this great ocean, and were ready to perish in this wilderness.

William Bradford

Of Plymouth Plantation, ch. 9

Quotations/Quoting

The good effect of Fortune may be short-lived. To build on it is to build on sand.

Honorat de Bueil, Marquis de Racan

Poesies Diverses

Quotations/Quoting

The Papacy is no other than the Ghost of the deceased Roman Empire, sitting crowned upon the grave thereof.

Thomas Hobbes

Leviathan, IV, 47

Quotations/Quoting

How little room

Do we take up in death that, living, know

No bounds!

James Shirley

The Wedding

Quotations/Quoting

It is a dear collop

That is cut out of th' own flesh.

John Heywood

Proverbs, pt. I, ch. 10

Quotations/Quoting

Orange bright,

Like golden lamps in a green light.

Andrew Marvell

Bermudas

Quotations/Quoting

What you do

Still betters what is done.

William Shakespeare

The Winter's Tale, IV, iii, 135

Quotations/Quoting

Condemned at the Council—"See how these Bishops expect me to abjure: yet I fear to do so, lest I be a liar in the sight of the Lord."

John Huss

Creighton

Quotations/Quoting

Her pure, and eloquent blood

Spoke in her cheeks, and so distinctly wrought,

That one might almost say, her body thought.

John Donne

The Progress of the Soul. The Second Anniversary of the Death of Mistress Elizabeth Drury, 244

Quotations/Quoting

The coast was clear.

Michael Drayton

Nymphidia

Quotations/Quoting

The worst is not,

So long as we can say, "This is the worst."

William Shakespeare

King Lear, IV, i, 27

Quotations/Quoting

A Galeotto was the book and he that wrote it; that day we read in it no farther.

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy, Canto V, 137

Quotations/Quoting

A great flame follows a little spark.

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy. Paradiso, canto I, 34

Quotations/Quoting

A great ox stands on my tongue.

Aeschylus

Agamemnon, 36

Quotations/Quoting

A little in one's own pocket is better than much in another man's purse. 'Tis good to keep a nest egg. Every little makes a nickle.

Miguel de Cervantes

Don Quixote, Pt. II, III, 7, 486

Quotations/Quoting

A new deal.

Samuel Langhorne Clemens ("Mark Twain") (1835-1910)

A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court (1889)

Quotations/Quoting

A private sin is not so prejudicial in this world as a public indecency.

Miguel de Cervantes

Don Quixote, pt. II, III, 22, 582

Quotations/Quoting

A small rock holds back a great wave.

Homer

The Odyssey, III, 296

Quotations/Quoting

A verse may find him who a sermon flies.

George Herbert

The Temple. The Church Porch, 1

Quotations/Quoting

Alas, I am struck a deep mortal blow!

Aeschylus

Agamamnon, 1343

Quotations/Quoting

All is flux, nothing stats still.

Heraclitus

From Diogenes Laertius, Bk. Ix, Sec. 8, And Plato, Cratylus, 402A

Quotations/Quoting

All our geese are swans.

Robert Burton

Anatomy of Melancholy, I, 2, 3, 14

Quotations/Quoting

As he brews, so shall he drink.

Ben Jonson

Every Man in his Humour, II, 1

Quotations/Quoting

As shepherds trample underfoot a hyacinth on the mountainside, and on the ground the purple flower.

Sappho

Fragment 117

Quotations/Quoting

At shut of evening flowers.

John Milton

Paradise Lost, IX, 278

Quotations/Quoting

Bankrupt of life, yet prodigal of ease.

John Dryden

Absalom and Achitophel, I, 168

Quotations/Quoting

Be content with your lot; one cannot be first in everything.

Aesop

Juno And The Peacock

Quotations/Quoting

Be not beased with compassion to the poor, or favor to the rich, in point of justice.

Sir Matthew Hale

Things Necessary to Be Continually Had in Remembrance

Quotations/Quoting

Be not solitary, be not idle.

Robert Burton

Last Words

Quotations/Quoting

Break the bone and suck out the substantific marrow.

Francois Rabelais

Gargantua and Pantagruel, I, prologue

Quotations/Quoting

But think that we

Are but turn'd aside to sleep.

John Donne

Song, 5

Quotations/Quoting

But where are the snows of yesterday?

Francois Villon

Le Grand Testament, Ballade des Dames du Temps Jadis

Quotations/Quoting

Do not kick against the pricks.

Aeschylus

Agamamnon, 1624

Quotations/Quoting

Do not peer too far.

Pindar

Olympian Odes I, 184

Quotations/Quoting

Do what thou wilt.

Francois Rabelais

Garguntua and Pantagruel, I,

Rabelais to the Reader, ch. 57

Quotations/Quoting

Dusk faces with white silken turbans wreath'd.

John Milton

Paradise Regained, IV, 76

Quotations/Quoting

Every man for himself and God for us all.

John Heywood

Proverbs, pt. II, ch. 9

Quotations/Quoting

Every mile is two in winter.

George Herbert

Jacula Prudentum, 949

Quotations/Quoting

Everything comes about by way of strife and necessity.

Heraclitus

Fragment 80

Quotations/Quoting

Far be it from us, the danger of thinking.

Ferdinand VII (1784-1833), King of Spain

Quoted by Gerald Brenan

Quotations/Quoting

From his will—"I am well enough known in heaven, upon earth and in hell; and I am sufficiently repected to be trusted." "When I come back from Eisleben, I will lay me in my coffic; the world is weary of me and I of the world; pray God that He will mercifully grant me a peaceful death." "If I could fall asleep for half an hour, I think it would do me good." Asked if he died in the faith of Christ and the doctrine he had preached, he answered—"Yes."

Martin Luther

Tulloch

Quotations/Quoting

From his will—"I testify that according to the measure of grace given me, I have taught His pure word…yea, in all controversies against the enemies of the truth, I have employed no sophistry, but have fought the good fight in simplicity and truth." His last address—"Let no one mar the right by subterfuge or art; let no one swerve from what is honest and just. Lastly I beseech you to pardon my weaknesses, known as they are to God and the Angels, and which, honourable sirs, I do not wish to conceal from you." Working to the last—"Would you that the Lord should find me idle when He comes?" "Lord, I opened not my mouth, for it was Thy doing."

John Calvin

Paul Henry after Beza

Quotations/Quoting

Give me a log hut, with only a simple bench, Mark Hopkins on one end and I on the other, and you may have all the buildings, apparatus and libraries without him.

James A. Garfield (1831-1881)

Address To Williams College Alumni, N.Y., December 28, 1871

Quotations/Quoting

Go hang yourselves [critics]…you shall never want rope enough.

Francois Rabelais

Garguntua and Pantagruel, V,

Rabelais to the Reader, author's prologue

Quotations/Quoting

Go right on and listen as thou goest.

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy. Purgatorio, canto V, 45

Quotations/Quoting

Goe and catche a falling starre,

Get with child a mandrake root,

Tell me, where all past yeares are,

Or who cleft the Divel's foot.

Teach me to hear Mermaides' singing,

Or to keep of envies stinging,

And finde

What winde

Serves to advance an honest minde.

John Donne (1573-1631)

Song" (C. 1593-1601), St. 1

Quotations/Quoting

Good sense is of all things in the world the most equally distributed, for everybody thinks he is so well supplies with it, that even those most difficult to please in all other matters never desire more of it than they already possess.

René Descartes

Le Discours de la Methode, I

Quotations/Quoting

Gray-eyed Athena sent them a favorable breeze, a fresh west wind, singing over the wine-dark sea.

Homer

The Odyssey, II, 420

Quotations/Quoting

Guarded with ships, and all our sea our own.

Edmund Waller

To My Lord of Falkland

Quotations/Quoting

Guess if you can, choose if you dare.

Pierre Corneille

Heraclius, IV, 4

Quotations/Quoting

He [Thersites] was the ugliest man who came to Ilium.

Homer

The Iliad II, 216

Quotations/Quoting

He's a sure card.

John Dryden

The Spanish Friar, Ii, 1

Quotations/Quoting

He's a wonderful talker, who has the art of telling you nothing in a great harangue.

Molière [Jean Baptiste Poquelin]

Le Misanthrope, II, 5

Quotations/Quoting

He's gone; and who knows how he may report

Thy words by adding fuel to the flame?

John Milton

Samson Agonistes, 1350

Quotations/Quoting

Herostratus lives that burnt the Temple of Diana—he is almost lost that built it.

Sir Thomas Browne

Urn-Burial; or Hydriotaphia, 5

Quotations/Quoting

His bark is worse than his bite.

George Herbert

Jacula Prudentum, 1090

Quotations/Quoting

I always make the first verse well, but I have trouble making the others.

Molière [Jean Baptiste Poquelin]

Les Precieuses Ridicules, I, 11

Quotations/Quoting

I am a kind of burr; I shall stick.

William Shakespeare

Measure for Measure, IV, iii, 193

Quotations/Quoting

I am sure the grapes are sour.

Aesop

The Fox and the Grapes

Quotations/Quoting

I am the true Amphitryon.

John Dryden

Amphitryon, III, V, 1

Quotations/Quoting

I do nothing upon myself, and yet am mine own executioner.

John Donne

Devotions XII

Quotations/Quoting

I grieve, and dare not show my discontent;

I love, and yet am forced to seem to hate;

I do not dare to say I never meant,

I seem stark mute, but inwardly I prate,

I am, and am not, I freeze and yet am burn'd,

Since from myself my other self I turned.

Elizabeth I (1533-1603), Queen of England

Finis, Eliza Regina, Ashmolean Museum Mss.

Quotations/Quoting

I have ever loved to repose myself, whether sitting or lying, with my heels as high or higher than my head.

Michel Eyquem de Montaigne

Essays, III, 13

Quotations/Quoting

I have set my affairs on nothing.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832)

Vanitas! Vanitatum Vanitas!, First Line

Quotations/Quoting

I know all except myself.

Francois Villon

Ballade des Menus Propres

Quotations/Quoting

I profess both to learn and to teach anatomy, not from books but from dissections; not from positions of philosophers but from the fabric of nature.

William Harvey

De Motu Cordis et Sanguinis

Quotations/Quoting

I quote others only in order the better to express myself.

Michel de Montaigne

Quotations/Quoting

I saw him now going the way of all flesh.

John Webster

Westward Hoe, in collaboration with Dekker, II, 2

Quotations/Quoting

I saw him, I say, saw him with my own eyes.

Molière [Jean Baptiste Poquelin]

Tartuffe, V, 3

Quotations/Quoting

I say with Didacus Stella, a dwarf standing on the shoulders of a giant may see farther than a giant himself.

Robert Burton

Anatomy of Melancholy. Democritus to the Reader

Quotations/Quoting

I treated him, God cured him.

Ambroise Pare

His favorite saying

Quotations/Quoting

I will maintain it before the whole world.

Molière [Jean Baptiste Poquelin]

Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme, IV, 5

Quotations/Quoting

I would have been glad to have lived under my woodside, and to have kept a flock of sheep, rather than to have undertaken this government.

Oliver Cromwell

To Parliament

Quotations/Quoting

I'll make thee glorious by my pen,

And famous by my sword.

James Graham, First Marquess of Montrose

My Dear and Only Love, 5

Quotations/Quoting

If one but tell a thing well, it moves on with undying voice, and over the fruitful earth and across the sea goes the bright gleam of noble deeds ever unquenchable.

Pindar

Isthmian Odes IV, 67

Quotations/Quoting

If wishes were horses, beggars might ride.

John Ray

English Proverbs

Quotations/Quoting

If you should put even a little on a little, and should do this often, soon this too would become big.

Hesiod

Ib. 361

Quotations/Quoting

Ill ware is never cheap. Pleasing ware is half sold.

George Herbert

Jacula Prudentum, 61

Quotations/Quoting

In everything one must consider the end.

Jean de la Fontaine

Fables, bk. III, fable 5

Quotations/Quoting

In the kingdom of the blind the one-eyed man is king.

Desiderius Erasmus (1465-1536)

Adagia (1500)

Quotations/Quoting

Iron hand in a velvet glove.

Charles V

Attributed to Charles V by Thomas Carlyle, Latter-Day

Pamphlets, 11

Quotations/Quoting

It beareth the name of Vanity Fair, because the town where 'tis kept is lighter than vanity.

John Bunyan

Pilgrim's Progress. Apology for His Book

Quotations/Quoting

It is always darkest just before the day dawneth.

Thomas Fuller

Pisgah Sight, II, 2

Quotations/Quoting

It is not fit that you sit here any longer!…you shall now give place to better men.

Oliver Cromwell

To the Rump Parliament

Quotations/Quoting

It is not my design to drink or to sleep, but my design is to make what haste I can to be gone.

Oliver Cromwell

Dying words

Quotations/Quoting

It is not only fine feathers that make fine birds.

Aesop

The Jay and the Peacock

Quotations/Quoting

It is not possible to step twice into the same river.

Heraclitus

Fragment 91

Quotations/Quoting

It is tedious to tell again tales already plainly told.

Homer

The Odyssey, XII 342

Quotations/Quoting

Je suis français, je suis Chauvin.

I am French, I am Chauvin.

Theodore and Hippolyte Coginard

La Cocarde Tricolor, 1831

Quotations/Quoting

Kiss till the cow comes home.

Beaumont and Fletcher

Scornful Lady, III, 1

Quotations/Quoting

Less than a drop of blood remains in me that does not tremble; I recognize the signals of the ancient flame.

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy. Purgatorio, canto XXX, 46

Quotations/Quoting

London, thou art the flower of Cities all.

William Dunbar

London, refrain

Quotations/Quoting

Luste is lorde of al: it hath overcome

Lordes, Learned Men, Wise and eloquent: it

hath vanquished the gretest Knights that have ben.

John (Giovanni) Florio (1553?-1625)

First Frutes (1578)

Quotations/Quoting

May men say, "He is far greater than his father," when he returns from battle.

Homer

The Iliad, VI, 484

Quotations/Quoting

Men are so inclined to content themselves with what is commonplace; the spirit and the senses so easily grow dead. It is only because they are not used to taste of what is excellent that the generality of people take delight in silly and insipid things, provided they are new.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832)

Wilhelm Meisters Lehrjahre (1796), V, I

Quotations/Quoting

My God, have mercy on my soul and on my poor people.

William I [William the Silent]

Last words as he fell under an assassin's bullets

Quotations/Quoting

My sword I give to him that shall succeed me in my pilgrimage, and my courage and skill to him that can get it. My marks and scars I carry with me, to be a witness for me, that I have fought His battle who now will be my rewarder.

John Bunyan

Pilgrim's Progress. Shepherd Boy's Song

Quotations/Quoting

Neither fish nor flesh, nor good red herring.

John Heywood

Proverbs, pt. I, ch. 10

Quotations/Quoting

Never complain and never explain.

Benjamin Disraeli (Earl of Beaconsfield) (1804-1881)

Quoted In Robert Blake, Disraeli (1967)

Quotations/Quoting

No one conquers who doesn't fight.

Gabriel Biel

Expositio Canonis Missae, lectio 78

Quotations/Quoting

No sooner met, but they looked; no sooner looked but they loved; no sooner loved but they sighed; no sooner sighed but they asked one another the reason; no sooner knew the reason but they sought the remedy.

William Shakespeare

As You Like It, V, ii, 37

Quotations/Quoting

Nothing too much.

The Seven Sages

From Diogenes Laertius, bk. I, sec. 63

Quotations/Quoting

O dark, dark, dark, amid the blaze of noon,

Irrecoverably dark, total eclipse

Without all hope of day!

John Milton

Samson Agonistes, 80

Quotations/Quoting

O heaven! that such companions thou'dst unfold,

And put in every honest hand a whip

To lash the rascals naked through the world.

William Shakespeare

Othello, IV, ii, 141

Quotations/Quoting

Oblivioni sacrum.

John Marston

Epitaph

Quotations/Quoting

Of ancient race by birth, but nobler yet

In his own worth.

John Dryden

Absalom and Achitophel, I, 900

Quotations/Quoting

On being praised—"Hush! hush! flesh is ower proud and needs no means to esteem the self." He asked his brethren to pray "that God would put an end to his long and painful battle; for now being unable to fight as God some time gave strength, I thirst an end." Asked if he heard their prayers—"Would God that you and all men heard them as I have heard them. I praise God for that heavenly sound." "Now it is come."

John Knox

Tulloch

Quotations/Quoting

On me the tempest falls. It does not make me tremble. O holy Mother Earth, O air and sun, behold me. I am wronged.

Aeschylus

Prometheus Bound, 1089

Quotations/Quoting

Our two souls therefore which are one,

Though I must go, endure not yet

A breach, but an expansion,

Like gold to airy thinness beat.

John Donne

A Valediction Forbidding Mourning, 6

Quotations/Quoting

Plain as a nose in a man's face.

Francois Rabelais

Garguntua and Pantagruel, V,

Rabelais to the Reader, author's prologue

Quotations/Quoting

Poor intricated soul! Riddling, perplexed, labyrinthical soul!

John Donne

Sermon XLVIII

Quotations/Quoting

Racine will go out of style like coffee.

Marie de Rabutin-Chantal,

Marquise de Sevigne

Attributed saying

Quotations/Quoting

Say the report is exaggerated.

Samuel Langhorne Clemens ("Mark Twain") (1835-1910)

Mark Twain In Eruption (Published 1949)

[To Evening Sun correspondent, London, April 3, 1906; re: report of his death]

Quotations/Quoting

See one promontory (said Socrates of old), one mountain, one sea, one river, and see all.

Robert Burton

Anatomy of Melancholy, I, 3, 4, 7

Quotations/Quoting

She [Helen] brought to Ilium her dowry, destruction.

Aeschylus

Agamemnon, 406

Quotations/Quoting

Show me, dear Christ, Thy spouse, so bright and clear.

John Donne

Holy Sonnets, XVIII, 1

Quotations/Quoting

Si monumentum requiris circumspice [If you would see the man's monument, look around].

Sir Christopher Wren

Inscription in St. Paul's Cathedral, London. Written by Wren's son

Quotations/Quoting

Since the worst comes to the worst.

Thomas Middleton

Michaelmas Term, III, 4

Quotations/Quoting

Sing, goddess, the wrath of Peleus' son Achilles, a destroying wrath which brought upon the Achaeans myriad woes, and sent forth to Hades many valiant souls of heroes.

Homer

The Iliad, bk. I, l. 1

Quotations/Quoting

So buxom, blithe, and debonair.

John Milton

L'Allegro, 24

Quotations/Quoting

Some griefs are med'cinable.

William Shakespeare

Cymbeline, III, ii, 33

Quotations/Quoting

Spaniards can be impressed by the courtesy of the conqueror, French by his riches, Greeks by his respect for the arts, Jews by his moral integrity, Africans by his calm and authoritative bearing, but Germans are impressed by none of these things. They must be struck into the dust, struck down again as they rise. Struck again while they lie groaning, while their wounds still pain them; they will respect the hand that dealt them.

Germanicus Caesar (15 B.C.-19 A.D.)

Attributed

Quotations/Quoting

Still to be neat, still to be drest,

As you were going to a feast.

Ben Jonson

Epicene; or, The Silent Woman, I, 1

Quotations/Quoting

Strange, is it not? that of the myriads who

Before us pass'd the door of Darkness through,

Not one returns to tell us of the Road,

Which to discover we must travel too.

Edward Fitzgerald (1809-1883)

The Rubaiyat Of Omar Khayyam (anonymously published 1859, revised and expanded, 1868), LXIV.

Quotations/Quoting

Strife is the source and the master of all things.

Heraclitus

Fragment 53

Quotations/Quoting

Surfeit begets insolence, when prosperity comes to a bad man.

Theognis

Elegies, 153

Quotations/Quoting

That would have made Quintilian stare and gasp.

John Milton

On the Detraction Which Followed Upon My Writing Certain Treatises

Quotations/Quoting

The boy cried "Wolf, wolf!" and the villagers came out to help him.

Aesop

The Shepherd Boy And The Wolf

Quotations/Quoting

The buyer needs a hundred eyes, the seller not one.

George Herbert

Jacula Prudentum, 390

Quotations/Quoting

The cat would eat fish, and would not wet her feet.

John Heywood

Proverbs, pt. I, ch. 11

Quotations/Quoting

The classical I call healthy and the romantic sick.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832)

Conversations With Eckerman (1822-1832)

Quotations/Quoting

The commonplace masters us all.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832)

Taschenbuch FüR Damen

Quotations/Quoting

The famous Don Quixote de la Mancha, otherwise called The Knight of the Woeful Figure.

Miguel de Cervantes

Don Quixote, Pt. I, III, 5, 126

Quotations/Quoting

The fat is in the fire.

John Heywood

Proverbs, pt. I, ch. 3

Quotations/Quoting

The game is up.

William Shakespeare

Cymbeline, III, iii, 107

Quotations/Quoting

The gratitude of most men is merely a secret desire to receive greater benefits.

Francois, Duc de la Rochefoucauld

Reflections; or, Sentences and Moral Maxims, 298

Quotations/Quoting

The lion is not so fierce as they paint him.

George Herbert

Jacula Prudentum, 289

Quotations/Quoting

The mill cannot grind with the water that's past.

George Herbert

Jacula Prudentum, 153

Quotations/Quoting

The path up and down is one and the same.

Heraclitus

Fragment 60

Quotations/Quoting

The son of Kronos [Zeus] spoke, and nodded with his darkish brows, and immortal locks fell forward from the lord's deathless head, and he made great Olympus tremble.

Homer

The Iliad, I, 528

Quotations/Quoting

The star that bids the shepherd fold.

John Milton

Comus, 93

Quotations/Quoting

There is more ado to interpret interpretations than to interpret the things, and more books upon books than upon all other subjects; we do nothing but comment upon one another.

Michel Eyquem de Montaigne

Essays, III, 13

Quotations/Quoting

There is no jesting with edge tools.

John Fletcher

The Little French Lawyer (in collaboration with Massinger), IV, 7

Quotations/Quoting

There is no rampart that will hold out against malice.

Molière [Jean Baptiste Poquelin]

Tartuffe, I, 1

Quotations/Quoting

There's no striving against the stream; and the weakest still goes to the wall.

Miguel de Cervantes

Don Quixote, Pt. I, IV, 20, 404

Quotations/Quoting

There's place and means for every man alive.

William Shakespeare

All's Well That Ends Well, IV, iii, 379

Quotations/Quoting

They are not long, the weeping and the laughter,

Love and desire and hate:

I think they have no portion in us after

We pass the gate.

Ernest Dowson (1867-1900)

Vita Summa Brevis Spem Nos Vetat Incohare Longam"

Quotations/Quoting

They think to order all things wisely; but having rejected Christ they will end by drenching the world with blood.

Fyodor Dostoyevski (1821-1881)

The Brothers Karamazov (1880)

Quotations/Quoting

Things unattempted yet in prose or rhyme.

John Milton

Paradise Lost, I, 16

Quotations/Quoting

This is the thing that I was born to do.

Samuel Daniel

Musophilus, Sst. 100

Quotations/Quoting

Those that merely talk and never think,

That live in the wild anarchy of drink.

Ben Jonson

Underwoods. An Epistle, answering to One that asked to be sealed of the Tribe of Ben

Quotations/Quoting

Though I say it that should not say it.

Beaumont and Fletcher

Wit at Several Weapons (probably in collaboration with William Rowley), II, 2

Quotations/Quoting

To conquer without risk is to triumph without glory.

Pierre Corneille

Le Cid, II, 2

Quotations/Quoting

To go beyond is as wrong as to fall short.

Confucius

The Confucian Analects, 11:15, iii

Quotations/Quoting

To pull the chestnuts out of the fire with the cat's paw.

Molière [Jean Baptiste Poquelin]

L'Etourdi, III, 6

Quotations/Quoting

To run over better waters the little vessel of my genius now hoists her sails, as she leaves behind her a sea so cruel.

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy. Purgatorio, canto I, 1

Quotations/Quoting

Tobacco surely was designed

To poison and destroy mankind.

Philip M. Freneau (1752-1832)

Tobacco" (1790)

Quotations/Quoting

Upon my buried body lie lightly, gentle earth.

Beaumont and Fletcher

The Maid's Tragedy, I, 2

Quotations/Quoting

Upon the bishop declaring, 'I deprive you of the Church triumphant and militant,'he replied, "Of the Church militant, yes; but of the Church which is triumphant, no; that does not belong to you." "My Lord died innocent of all crime—for my sins and shall I not willingly give my soul for the love of Him?" "A sinful man stands not in need of human praise or glorification, nor is this life a time for praise."

Girolamo Savonarola

MaddenQ

Quotations/Quoting

We can make majors and officers every year, but not scholars.

Robert Burton

Anatomy of Melancholy, I, 2, 3, 15

Quotations/Quoting

We have changed all that.

Molière [Jean Baptiste Poquelin]

Le Medecin Malgre Lui, II, 6

Quotations/Quoting

We rarely find that people have good sense unless they agree with us.

Francois, Duc de la Rochefoucauld

Reflections; Or, Sentences And Moral Maxims, 347

Quotations/Quoting

What is pleasanter that the tie of host and guest?

Aeschylus

The Libation Bearers, 702

Quotations/Quoting

When my mouth shall be filled with dust, and the worm shall feed, and feed sweetly upon me, when the ambitious man shall have no satisfaction if the poorest alive tread upon him, nor the poorest receive any contentment in being made equal to princes, for they shall be equal but in dust.

John Donne

Death's Duel (last sermon)

Quotations/Quoting

When the highest type of men hear Tao,

They diligently practice it.

When the average type of men hear Tao,

They half believe in it.

When the lowest type of men hear Tao,

They laugh heartily at it.

Lao Tzu

The Way of Lao Tzu 41

Quotations/Quoting

When the stormy winds do blow.

Martin Parker

Song

Quotations/Quoting

Whistle, and she'll come to you.

Beaumont and Fletcher

Wit Without Money, IV, 4

Quotations/Quoting

Who cannot give good counsel? 'Tis cheap, it costs them nothing.

Robert Burton

Anatomy of Melancholy, II, 2, 3

Quotations/Quoting

Who think too little, and who talk too much.

John Dryden

Absalom and Achitophel, I, 534

Quotations/Quoting

Whose house is of glass, must not throw stones at another.

George Herbert

Jacula Prudentum, 196

Quotations/Quoting

Words that weep and tears that speak.

Abraham Cowley

The Prophet

Quotations/Quoting

Ye have many strings to your bow.

John Heywood

Proverbs, pt. I, ch. 11

Quotations/Quoting

You've asked for it, Georges Dandin, you've asked for it.

Molière [Jean Baptiste Poquelin]

Georges Dandin, I, 9

Quotations/Quoting

Your Cleopatra; Dolabella's Cleopatra; every man's Cleopatra.

John Dryden

All for Love, IV, 1

Quotations/Quoting

[Quoting Seneca] Cornelia kept her in talk till her children came from school, "and these," said she, "are my jewels."

Robert Burton

Anatomy of Melancholy, III, 2, 1, 2

Quotation

The best of all things for earthly men is not to be born and not to see the beams of the bright sun; but if born, then as quickly as possible to pass the gates of Hades, and to lie deep buried.

Theognis

Elegies, 425

Quotations/Quoting

"What is truth?" said jesting Pilate and would not stay for an answer.

Francis Bacon

Essays, I.

Quotations/Quoting

(To his physician, who said, "General, I fear the angels are waiting for you"): Waiting, are they? Waiting, are they? Well, g—-d—- em, let'em wait!

Ethan Allen

Quoted, Saturday Review, April 5, 1958.

Quotations/Quoting

A sucker is born every minute.

Phineas T. Barnum

Quoted by Harold L. Ickes, N.Y. Post, November 24, 1947.

Quotations/Quoting

Advertising made me.

Phineas T. Barnum

Said to President Grant, in reply to remark, "You are better

known than I am"; Editor & Publisher, July 31, 1934.

Quotations/Quoting

Everyone is his own enemy.

St. Bernard

Quotations/Quoting

I never did a single wise thing in the whole course of my existence, although I have written many which have been thought so.

Walter Savage Landor

Quotations/Quoting

I suppose every old scholar has had the experience of reading something in a book which was significant to him, but which he could never find again. Sure he is that he read it there, but no one else ever read it, nor can he find it again, though he buy the book and ransack every page.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Quotations/Quoting

I tell the honest truth in my paper, and leave the consequences to God. Could I leave them in Better hands?

James Gordon Bennett

Editorial, New York Morning Herald, May 10, 1836.

Quotations/Quoting

Kill them all. God will easily recognize His own.

Amalric

To Simon de Montfort, at the massacre at Beziers, 1209.

Quotations/Quoting

Many excelled me: I know it.

Yet I am quoted as much as they.

Ovid

Quotations/Quoting

Men make the city, and not walls or ships without men in them.

Thucydides

The History of the Peloponnesian War, VII, 77 (Address of

Nicias to the Athenians at Syracuse)

Quotations/Quoting

Quoting: The act of repeating erroneously the words of another.

Ambrose Bierce

Quotations/Quoting

Some for renown, on scraps of learning dote,

And think they grow immortal as they quote.

Edward Young

Quotations/Quoting

Stay at home in your mind. Don't recite other people's opinions. I hate quotations. Tell me what you know.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Quotations/Quoting

The wisdom of the wise and the experience of the ages are perpetuated by quotations.

Benjamin Disraeli

Quotations/Quoting

The wise make proverbs and fools repeat them.

Isaac D'Israeli

Quotations/Quoting

There are but three ways for the populace to escape its wretched lot. The first two are by the route of the wine-shop or the church; the third is by that of the social revolution.

Mikhail A. Bakunin

Dieu et l'Etat, posthumously published, 1882.

Quotations/Quoting

You are mistaken if you think I do not believe in God…. I seek God in man, in human freedom, and now I seek God in revolution.

Mikhail A. Bakunin

Quoted by Eugene Pyziur, The Doctrine of Anarchism of Michael A. Bakunin,

1955, p.50.

Race

And if we are to open employment opportunities in this country for members of all races and creeds, then the Federal Government must set an example…. The President himself must set the key example. I am not going to promise a Cabinet post or any other post to any race or ethnic group. That is racism in reverse at its worst. So I do not promise to consider race or religion in my appointments if I am successful. I promise only that I will not

consider them.

Senator John F. Kennedy, campaign speech, Wittenberg College, Springfield, Ohio, October 17, 1960.—Freedom of Communications, final report of the Committee on Commerce, United States Senate, part I, p. 635 (1961). Senate Rept. 87-994.

Race

For it is not light that is needed, but fire; it is not the gentle shower, but thunder. We need the storm, the whirlwind, and the earthquake. The feeling of the nation must be quickened; the conscience of the nation must be roused; the propriety of the nation must be startled; the hypocrisy of the nation must be exposed; and its crimes against God and man must be proclaimed and denounced.

Frederick Douglass, "What to the Slave Is the Fourth of July?," address delivered in Rochester, New York, July 5, 1852.—The Frederick Douglass Papers, ed. John W. Blassingame, series 1, vol. 2, p. 371 (1982).

Race

I am quite sure that (bar one) I have no race prejudices, and I think I have no color prejudices or caste prejudices nor creed prejudices. Indeed I know it. I can stand any society. All that I care to know is that a man is a human being—that is enough for me; he can't be any worse.

Samuel Langhorne Clemens ("Mark Twain") (1835-1910)

"Concerning the Jews," Contribution, Harper's Magazine, September 1899

Race

I have one great fear in my heart, that one day when they are turned to loving, they will find we are turned to hating.

Alan Paton, Cry, the Beloved Country, p. 40 (1960).

Race

I will say then that I am not, nor ever have been in favor of bringing about in any way the social and political equality of the white and black races,—that I am not nor ever have been in favor of making voters or jurors of negroes, nor of qualifying them to hold office, nor to intermarry with white people; and I will say in addition to this that there is a physical difference between the white and black races which I believe will forever forbid the two races living together on terms of social and political equality. And inasmuch as they cannot so live, while they do remain together there must be the position of superior and inferior, and I as much as any other man am in favor of having the superior position assigned to the white race.

Abraham Lincoln, fourth debate with Senator Stephen A. Douglas, Charleston, Illinois, September 18, 1858.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P. Basler, vol. 3, p. 145-46 (1953).

Race

Not at all similar are the race of the immortal gods and the race of men who walk upon the earth.

Homer

The Iliad, V, 441

Race

Nothing is more certainly written in the book of fate, than that these people are to be free; nor is it less certain that the two races, equally free, cannot live in the same government. Nature, habit, opinion have drawn indelible lines of distinction between them.

Thomas Jefferson, 'Autobiography,' The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Andrew A. Lipscomb, vol. I, pp. 72-73 (1903).

Race

One race there is of men, one of gods, but from one mother we both draw our breath.

Pindar

Nemean Odes VI, 1

Race

Sometimes the character of the mistress if inferred from the dress of her maids.

St. Jerome

Letter, 54

Race

The difference of race is one of the reasons why I fear that war will always exist: because race implies differences, difference implies superiority, and superiority leads to predominance.

Benjamin Disraeli (Earl of Beaconsfield) (1804-1881)

Speeches, House of Commons, February 11, 1849

Race

The time may have come when the issue of race could benefit from a period of "benign neglect." The subject has been too much talked about. The forum has been too much taken over to hysterics, paranoids, and boodlers on all sides. We may need a period in which Negro progress continues and racial rhetoric fades. The administration can help bring this about by paying close attention to such progress—as we are doing—while seeking to avoid situations in which extremists of either race are given opportunities for martyrdom, heroics, histrionics or whatever.

Daniel Patrick Moynihan, memorandum to President Nixon on the status of Negroes, as reported in The Evening Star Washington, D.C., March 2, 1970, p. A-5.Moynihan has served in Congress since 1977.

Race

Theirs was the giant race, before the flood.

John Dryden

Epistle to Congreve, 5

Race

We are the first race in the world, and the more of the world we inherit the better it is for the human race.

Cecil Rhodes

Reaction

Loyalty to a petrified opinion never yet broke a chain or freed a human soul.

Mark Twain

Reaction

Man seldom, or rather never, for a length of time deliberately rebels against anything that does not deserve rebelling against.

Thomas Carlyle

Goethe.

Reaction

New opinions are always suspected, and usually opposed, without any other reason but because they are not already common.

John Locke

Reaction

The march of the human mind is slow.

Edmund Burke

Reading

A man ought to read just as inclination leads him; for what he reads as a task will do him little good.

Samuel Johnson

Reading

He [Hobbes] had read much, but his contemplation was much more than his reading. He was wont to say that if he had read as much as other men, he should have known no more than other men.

John Aubrey

Brief Lives, Vol. I, p. 349

Reading

I read my eyes out and can't read half enough…. The more one reads the more one sees we have to read.

Vice President John Adams, letter to Abigail Adams, December 28, 1794.—Adams papers, Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston, Massachusetts.

Reading

In science, read by preference the newest works; in literature the oldest. The classics are always modern.

Lord Lytton

Reading

Someone has calculated that in fifteen minutes a day we can read the Bible through twice in a year's time.

Author Unknown

Reading

Take up, read! Take up, read!

St. Augustine

Confessions, VIII, 12

Reading

The careful reader of a few good newspapers can learn more in a year than most scholars do in their great libraries.

Franklin B. Sanborn

Reading

The difference between literature and journalism is that journalism is unreadable, and literature is not read.

Oscar Wilde

The Critic as Artist

Reading

The man who does not read good books has no advantage over the man who can't read them.

Mark Twain

Reason

A man always has two reasons for what he does—a good one, and the real one.

Attributed to J. Pierpont Morgan.—Owen Wister, Roosevelt: The Story of a Friendship, p. 280 (1930).

Reason

And generally let every student of nature take this as a rule—that whatever the mind seizes and dwells upon with peculiar satisfaction is to be held in suspicion, and that so much the more care is to be taken in dealing with such questions to keep the understanding even and clear.

Francis Bacon

Novum Organum, Aphorism., lviii.

Reason

As sight is in the body, so is reason in the soul.

Aristotle

Nicomachean Ethics.

Reason

Every state is a community of some kind, and every community is established with a view for some good, for men always act in order to obtain what they think good. But if all communities aim at some good, the state or political organization which is the highest of all and embraces all the others, aims, and in greater degree than any other does, at the highest good.

Aristotle

Politics, 1.

Reason

Every why hath a wherefore.

William Shakespeare

The Comedy of Errors, II, ii, 45

Reason

For here we are not afraid to follow truth wherever it may lead, nor to tolerate error so long as reason is free to combat it.

Thomas Jefferson

Reason

He who will not reason, is a bigot; he who cannot is a fool; and he who dares not is a slave.

Sir William Drummond

Reason

If a man, fixing his attention on these and the like difficulties, does away with ideas of things and will not admit that every individual thing has its own determinate idea which is always one and the same, he will have nothing on which his mind can rest; and so he will utterly destroy the power of reasoning.

Plato

Dialogues, Parmenides, 135

Reason

If I go to heaven, I want to take my reason with me.

Robert G. Ingersoll

Reason

If reason is a universal faculty, the decision of the common mind is the nearest criterion of truth.

George Bancroft

Reason

My reason is not framed to bend or stoop; my knees are.

Michel de Montaigne

Reason

Reason in man is rather like God in the world.

St. Thomas Aquinas

Opusc. 11, 1 de Regno, 12.

Reason

Reason is our Soules left hand, Faith her right,

By these wee reach divinity….

John Donne (1573-1631)

"To the Countess of Bedford" (C. 1607-8)

Reason

Reason is the greatest enemy that faith has: it never comes to the aid of spiritual things, but—more frequently than not—struggles against the divine Word, treating with contempt all that emanates from God.

Martin Luther

Table Talk, 353

Reason

Reason is the life of the law; nay, the common law itself is nothing else but reason…. The law, which is perfection of reason.

Sir Edward Coke

First Institute

Reason

Reason is the mistress and queen of all things.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

Tusculanae disputationes.

Reason

Reason the only oracle of man.

Ethan Allen

Title of pamphlet, first freethought publication in America.

Reason

Reason to rule, mercy to forgive:

The first law, the last prerogative.

John Dryden

The Hind and the Panther, I, 261

Reason

Reason, which fifty times to one does err, reason, an ignis fatuus of the mind.

John Wilmot

Reason

Since attaining the full use of my reason no one has ever heard me laugh.

Earl of Chesterfield

Reason

Such of mankind, as break the fetters of their education…exalt reason to its just supremacy, and vindicate truth and the ways of God's providence to men; are sure to be stamped with the epithet of irreligious, infidel, prophane, and the like.

Ethan Allen

Reason the Only Oracle of Man, first edition, Bennington, Vt.,

1784; Scholars' Facsimiles & Reprints, N.Y.C., 1940. p. 468.

Reason

The gods plant reason in mankind, of all good gifts the highest.

Sophocles

Reason

There is not any thing, which has contributed so much to delude mankind in religious matters, as mistaken apprehensions concerning supernatural inspiration or revelation; not considering, that all true religion originates from reason, and can not otherwise be understood, but by the exercise and improvement of it.

Ethan Allen

Reason the Only Oracle of Man, first edition, Bennington, Vt.,

1784; Scholars' Facsimiles & Reprints, N.Y.C., 1940. p. 200.

Reason

These reasons made his mouth to water.

Samuel Butler

Hudibras, I, III, 379

Reason

They who have reasoned ignorantly, or who have aimed at effecting their personal ends by flattering the popular feeling, have boldly affirmed that "one man is as good as another"; a maxim that is true in neither nature, revealed morals, nor political theory.

James Fenimore Cooper (1789-1851)

The American Democrat (1838)

Reason

To the rational being only the irrational is unendurable, but the rational is endurable.

Epictetus

Discourses, I, 2

Rebellion

A little rebellion now and then is a good thing, and as necessary in the political world as storms in the physical.

Thomas Jefferson

Rebellion

Humans, like horses, cannot kick and go forward at the same time.

E. L. Benedict

Rebellion

Rebellion to tyrants is obedience to God.

Thomas Jefferson

Recognition

Don't worry when you are not recognized, but strive to be worthy of recognition.

Abraham Lincoln

Recreation

Angling may be said to be so like the mathematics that it can never be fully learnt.

Izaak Walton

Recreation

Human nature will not flourish, any more than a potato, if it be planted and replanted, for too long a series of generations, in the same worn out soil.

Nathaniel Hawthorne

Recreation

I have laid aside business, and gone a-fishing.

Izaak Walton

Recreation

We may say of angling as Dr. Boteler said of strawberries: "Doubtless God could have made a better berry, but doubtless God never did"; and so, if I might be judge, God never did make a more calm, quiet, innocent recreation than angling.

Izaak Walton

Recreation

Whatever your occupation may be and however crowded your hours with affairs, do not fail to secure at least a few minutes every day for refreshment of your inner life with a bit of poetry.

Charles E. Norton

Recreation

You will find angling to be like the virtue of humility, which has a calmness of spirit and a world of other blessings attending upon it.

Izaak Walton

Reform

A nation without means of reform is without means of survival.

Edmund Burke

Quoted by Adlai E. Stevenson, Harper's Magazine, February, 1956.

Reform

A rayformer thinks he was ilicted because he was a rayformer, whin th' thruth iv th' matther is he was ilicted because no wan knew him.

Finley Peter Dunne, Observations by Mr Dooley, p. 167 (1906, reprinted 1968).

Reform

A reform is a correction of abuses; a revolution is a transfer of power.

Edward Bulwer-Lytton

Reform

All great reforms, great movements, come from the bottom and not the top…. Wherever there is a wrong, point it out to all the world, and you can trust the people to fight it.

John Peter Altgeld

Quoted by Madison, Critics and Crusaders.

Reform

Every reform is only a mask under cover of which a more terrible reform, which dares not yet name itself, advances.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Reform

He that will not apply new remedies must expect new evils, for time is the greatest innovator.

Francis Bacon

Reform

Our first work must be the annihilation of everything as it now exists.

Mikhail A. Bakunin

Dieu et l'Etat, posthumously published, 1882.

Reform

Pamphlet-vendors are the most important springs in the machinery of reform.

Richard Carlile

The Republican (weekly journal), V. 279, 1822.

Reform

That the proletariat ought to tend, not to the establishment of a new rule or of a new class for its own profit, but to the definitive abolition of all rule, of every class, by the organization of justice, liberty, and equality for all human beings, without distinction of race, color, nationality, or faith—all to fully exercise the same duties and enjoy the same rights.

Mikhail A. Bakunin

Address, Working People's International Ass'n, 1867.

Reform

The best reformers the world has ever seen are those who commence on themselves.

Attributed to George Bernard Shaw.—Evan Esar, The Dictionary of Humorous Quotations, p. 178 (1949). Unverified in Shaw's published writings.

Reform

The hole and the patch should be commensurate.

Thomas Jefferson

Reform

The individual is foolish; the multitude, for the moment, is foolish when they act without deliberation; but the species is wise, and, when time is given to it, as a species it always acts right.

Edmund Burke

Reform of Representation, Works, Vol. VI.

Reform

The old world must be destroyed and replaced by a new one. When you have freed your mind from the fear of God, and that childish respect for the fiction of right, then all the remaining chains that bind you—property, marriage, morality, and justice—will snap asunder like threads.

Mikhail A. Bakunin

Dieu et l'Etat, posthumously published, 1882.

Reform

The voice of great events is proclaiming to us, Reform, that you may preserve.

Thomas Babington Macaulay, speech on parliamentary reform, March 2, 1831.—The Complete Writings of Lord Macaulay, vol. 17, p. 18 (1900).President Franklin D. Roosevelt paraphrased slightly "The words of the great essayist," not named: "The voice of great events is proclaiming to us. Reform if you would preserve," in his address at the Democratic state convention, Syracuse, New York, September 29, 1936.—The Public Papers and Addresses of Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1936, p. 390 (1938).

Reform

We think we are on the right road to improvement because we are making experiments.

Benjamin Franklin

Reform

What has commonly been called rebellion has more often been nothing but a manly and glorious struggle in opposition to the lawless power of rebellious kings and princes. If ye love wealth better than liberty, the tranquillity of servitude better than the animating contest of freedom, go home from us in peace. We ask not your counsels or arms. Crouch down and lick the hands which feed you. May your chains set lightly upon you, and may posterity forget that ye were our countrymen.

Samuel Adams

1776.

Regulation

It is hardly lack of due process for the Government to regulate that which it subsidizes.

Justice Robert H. Jackson, Wickard v. Filburn, 317 U.S. 131 (1943).

Regulation

The general rule, at least, is that while property may be regulated to a certain extent, if regulation goes too far it will be recognized as a taking.

Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, Pennsylvania Coal Company v. H. J. Mahon, 260 U.S. 415 (1922).

Regulation

Will one of you gentlemen tell me in what civilized country of the earth there are important government boards of control on which private interests are represented? Which of you gentlemen thinks the railroads should select members of the Interstate Commerce Commission?

Attributed to Woodrow Wilson, at a meeting of bankers and the president shortly before he asked Congress to enact legislation creating a Federal Reserve System.—Carter Glass, An Adventure in Constructive Finance, chapter 7, p. 116 (1927, reprinted 1975).This appears to be the origin of what is frequently quoted as "You don't put robbers to work in a bank."

Reincarnation

Reincarnation: People coming back to life at quitting time.

Author Unknown

Relationships

The compass and square produce perfect circles and squares. By the sages, the human relations are perfectly exhibited.

Mencius

Book IV, 1:2.1

Relationships

The relation between superiors and inferiors is like that between the wind and the grass. The grass must bend when the wind blows over it.

Confucius

Relaxation

If all the year were playing holidays,

To sport would be as tedious as to work.

William Shakespeare

Relevance

If, in the middle of World War II, a general could be writing a poem, then maybe I was not so irrelevant after all. Maybe the general was doing more for victory by writing a poem than he would be by commanding an army. At least, he might be doing less harm. By applying the same logic to my own condition [consultant in poetry at the Library of Congress], I decided that I might be relevant in what I called a negative way. I have clung to this concept ever since—negative relevance. In moments of vain-glory I even entertain the possibility that if my concept were more widely accepted, the world might be a better place to live in. There are a lot of people who would make better citizens if they were content to be just negatively relevant.

Robert Penn Warren, speech upon receipt of the 1970 National Medal for Literature, New York City, December 2, 1970.—Transcript, p. 1.

Religion

Under the control of the Church are two swords, that is two powers…both swords are in the power of the Church; the spiritual is wielded in the Church by the hand of the clergy; the secular is to be employed for the Church by the hand of the civil authority, but under the direction of the spiritual power.

Boniface VIII

Bull, Unam Sanctam. November 18, 1302.

Religion

A good Life is the only Religion.

Thomas Fuller (1654-1734)

Gnomologia (1732), No. 158

Religion

A good test of a man's religion is its vitality.

Author Unknown

Religion

A little skill in antiquity, inclines a man to Popery; but depth in that study brings him about again to our religion.

Thomas Fuller (1608-1661)

The Holy State and the Profane State (1642)

Bk. II, ch. vi, "The True Church Antiquary"

Religion

A religion which requires persecution to sustain it is of the devil's propagation.

Hosea Ballou

Religion

A state that is prosperous always honors the gods.

Aeschylus

Religion

….All religion, however, is nothing but the fantastic reflection in men's minds of those external forces which control their daily life, a reflection in which the terrestrial forces assume the form of supernatural forces.

Friedrich Engels (1820-1895)

Anti-Duhring (1878)

Religion

All religions must be tolerated…for…every man must get to heaven his own way.

Frederick The Great

Religion

All religions united with government are more or less inimical to liberty. All separated from government, are compatible with liberty.

Henry Clay

House of Representatives, March 24, 1818.

Religion

All religions, with their gods, demigods, prophets, messiahs and saints, are the product of the fancy and credulity of men who have not yet reached the full development and complete personality of their intellectual powers.

Mikhail A. Bakunin

Dieu et l'Etat, posthumously published, 1882.

Religion

And what greater calamity can fall upon a nation than the loss of worship?

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Religion

Apollo said that everyone's true worship was that which he found in use in the place where he chanced to be.

Xenophon

Recollections of Socrates, I, 3, 1

Religion

Art is the Tree of Life. Science is the Tree of Death. God is Jesus.

William Blake

Jah & His Two Sons, Satan & Adam.

Religion

As for those wingy mysteries in divinity, and airy subtleties in religion, which have unhinged the brains of better heads, they never stretched the pia mater of mine.

Sir Thomas Browne

Religio Medici, I, 9

Religion

As I understand the Christian religion, it was, and is, a revelation. But how has it happened that millions of fables, tales, legends, have been blended with both Jewish and Christian revelation that have made them the most bloody religion that ever existed?

John Adams

Letter to F. A. Van der Kamp, December 27, 1816.

Religion

As long as it was supposed that religion is to benefit the world by laying restraints, awakening fears, and acting as a part of the system of police, so long it was natural to rely on authority and tradition as the means of its propagation; so long it was desirable to stifle thought and inquiry on the subject. But now that we have learned that the true office of religion is to awaken pure and lofty sentiments, and to unite man to God by rational homage and enlightened love, there is something monstrous in placing religion beyond the thought and the study of the mass of the human race.

William Ellery Channing

On the Elevation of the Laboring Classes, 1840.

Religion

At the resurrection the substance of our bodies, however disintegrated, will be reunited. We maintain no fear that the omnipotence of God cannot recall all the particles that have been consumed by fire or by beasts, or dissolved into dust and ashes, or decomposed into water, or evaporated into air.

St. Augustine

The City of God, xxii.

Religion

…this loathsome combination of Church and State.

Thomas Jefferson

Religion

Avoid, as you would the plague, a clergyman who is also a man of business.

St. Jerome

Letter, 52

Religion

Because the Papists persecute the truth should we, on that account, refrain from repressing error?

John Calvin

Religion

Beyond the bosom of the Church, no remission of sins is to be hoped for nor any salvation.

John Calvin

Religion

Bigotry murders religion to frighten fools with her ghost.

Charles Caleb Colton (1780-1832)

The Lacon (1829)

Religion

Carry religion into common life, and your life will be rendered useful as well as noble.

John Caird

Religion

Clearly the person who accepts the Church as an infallible guide will believe whatever the Church teaches.

St. Thomas Aquinas

Summa Theologica.

Religion

Clergyman: A man who undertakes the management of our spiritual affairs as a method of bettering his temporal ones.

Ambrose Bierce

Religion

For every man, that religion is good, which makes him gentle, upright and kind.

Ernest Kenan

Religion

God knows, I'm not the thing I should be,

Nor am I even the thing I could be,

But twenty times I rather would be

An atheist clean,

Than under gospel colours hid be

Just for a screen.

Robert Burns

Epistle to the Rev. John McMath.

Religion

Having been admonished by the Holy Office entirely to abandon the false opinion that the Sun was the center of the universe and immovable, and that the Earth was not the center of the same and that it moved….I have been…suspected of heresy, that is, of having held and believed that the Sun is the center of the universe and immovable, and that the Earth is not the center of the same, and that it does move….I abjure with a sincere heart and unfeigned faith, I curse and detest the same errors and heresies, and generally all and every error and sect contrary to the Holy Catholic Church.

Galileo Galilei (1564-1642)

Recantation (June 22, 1633)

Religion

He cannot have God for his father who has not the Church for his Mother.

St. Cyprian

De Unitate Ecclesiae, ch. 6

Religion

Heaven is like an egg, and the earth is like the yolk of the egg.

Chang Heng

Saying

Religion

Henceforth my heart shall sigh no more

For olden time and holier store;

God's love and blessing then and there;

Are now; and here; and everywhere.

John Greenleaf Whittier

Religion

Human salvation demands the divine disclosure of truths surpassing reason.

St. Thomas Aquinas

Summa Theologica.

Religion

I am for freedom of religion and against all maneuvers to bring about a legal ascendancy of one sect over another.

Thomas Jefferson

Religion

I do not like the late resurrection of the Jesuits…. If ever any congregation of men could merit eternal perdition on earth, and in hell, according to these historians, though, like Pascal, true Catholics, it is this company of Loyolas.

John Adams

Letter to Jefferson, May 5, 1816. Official edition, Writings of Thomas

Jefferson, Vol. VI, p. 604.

Religion

I have generally been denominated a Deist, the reality of which I never disputed, being conscious I am no Christian, except mere infant baptism makes me one; and as to being a Deist, I know not strictly speaking, whether I am one or not.

Ethan Allen

Reason the Only Oracle of Man, preface, first edition, Bennington,

Vt., 1784; Scholars' Facsimiles & Reprints, N.Y.C., 1940.

Religion

I hold that there is an infinite universe, which is the effect of the Infinite Divine Power, because I esteem it to be a thing unworthy of the Divine Goodness and Power that, being able to produce another world, and an infinite number of others besides this world, it should produce one finite world.

Giordano Bruno

Letter to the Inquisition.

Religion

I sought for the greatness and genius of America in her commodious harbors and her ample rivers; and it was not there; in her fertile fields and boundless prairies; and it was not there; in her rich mines and her vast world commerce; and it was not there. Not until I went to the churches of America and heard her pulpits aflame with righteousness did I understand the secret of her genius and power. America is great because she is good; and if America ever ceases to be good; America will cease to be great.

Alexis de Tocqueville

Religion

If forgers and malefactors are put to death by the secular power, there is much more reason for excommunicating and even putting to death one convicted of heresy.

St. Thomas Aquinas

Summa Theologica.

Religion

If I break wind in Wittenberg they smell it in Rome.

Martin Luther

Religion

If men are so wicked (as we see them now) with religion, what would they be if without it?

Benjamin Franklin

Religion

Imagine that you are creating a fabric of human destiny with the object of making men happy in the end…but that it was essential and inevitable to torture to death only one tiny creature…and to found that edifice on its unavenged tears: would you consent to be the architect on those conditions? Tell me, and tell the truth!

Fyodor Dostoyevski

Religion

In fact the refutation of heretics serves to bring into light what your Church holds and what sound doctrine is. For there must be also heresies: that they who are approved may be made manifest among the weak.

St. Augustine

Confessions.

Religion

In practice all men are atheists; they deny their faith by their actions.

Ludwig Feuerbach (1804-1872)

Attributed

Religion

In regard to religion, mutual toleration in the different professions thereof is what all good and candid minds in all ages have ever practiced, and both by precept and example inculcated on mankind….The only sects which he (Locke) thinks ought to be and which by all wise laws are excluded from such toleration are those who teach doctrines subversive of the civil government under which they live. The Roman Catholics or Papists are excluded by reason of such doctrines as these: that princes excommunicated may be deposed, and those they call heretics may be destroyed without mercy; besides their recognizing the pope in so absolute a manner, in subversion of government, by introducing as far as possible into the states under whose protection they enjoy life, liberty, and property that solecism in politics, imperium in imperio, leading directly to the worst anarchy and confusion, civil discord, war and bloodshed.

Samuel Adams

The Rights of the Colonists, 1772.

Religion

In the one hand he is carrying a stone, while he shows the bread in the other.

Titus Maccius Plautus

Aulularia, act II, sc. ii, l. 18

Religion

Is The Vague and Elusive.

Meet it and you will not see its head.

Follow it and you will not see its back.

Lao Tzu

The Way Of Lao Tzu

Religion

It is certainly no part of religion to compel religion.

Quintus Septimius Tertullian

Ad Scapulam, 2

Religion

It is conceivable that religion may be morally useful without being intellectually sustainable.

John Stuart Mill

Religion

Justice Bennet of Derby, was the first that called us Quakers, because I bid them tremble at the word of the Lord. This was in the year 1650.

George Fox

Journal

Religion

Leave the matter of religion to the family altar, the church, and the private school, supported entirely by private contributions. Keep the church and state forever separate.

Ulysses S. Grant

Religion

Man is great only when he is kneeling.

Pope Pius XII

Religion

Many people have looked upon Jesus as a true theist, whose religion has been by degrees corrupted. Indeed in the books which contain the law which is attributed to him, there is no mention either of worship, or of priests, or of sacrifices, or of sufferings, or of the greater part of the doctrines of actual Christianity, which has become the most prejudicial of all the superstitions of the earth.

Denis Diderot (1713-1784)

Footnote to d'Holbach's The System of Nature (1770)

Religion

Medical materialism finished up Saint Paul by calling his vision on the road to Damascus "a discharging lesion of the occipital cortex, he being an epileptic."

William James

Religion

Men can be attracted but not forced to the faith. You may drive people to baptism, you won't move them one step further to religion.

Alcuin (Flaccus Albinus Alcuinus)

Religion

Men will wrangle for religion; write for it; fight for it; die for it; anything but—live for it.

Charles Caleb Colton (1780-1832)

The Lacon (1829)

Religion

Most men's anger about religion is as if two men should quarrel for a lady they neither of them care for.

Lord Halifax (George Savile)

Religion

My History of the Jesuits is in four volumes….This society has been a greater calamity to mankind than the French Revolution, or Napoleon's despotism or idealogy. It has obstructed progress of reformation and the improvement of the human mind in society much longer and more fatally.

John Adams

To Jefferson, November 4, 1816.

Religion

My history of the Jesuits is not elegantly written, but is supported by unquestionable authorities, is very particular and very horrible. Their restoration is indeed "a step toward darkness," cruelty, perfidy, despotism, death and I wish we were out of danger of bigotry and Jesuitism.

John Adams

To Jefferson, August 9, 1816.

Religion

Now, therefore, we declare, say, determine and pronounce, that for every human creature it is necessary for salvation to be subject to the authority of the Roman pontiff.

Boniface VIII

Bull, Unam Sanctam. November 18, 1302.

Religion

O bright and violet-crowned and famed in song, bulwark of Geec, famous Athens, divine city!

Pindar

Fragment 76

FOUNDERS OF RELIGION

Religion

O unbelievers, I will not worship that which ye worship; nor will ye worship that which I worship…ye have your religion, and I my religion.

The Koran

Chapter 109

Religion

One man's religion neither harms nor helps another man.

Quintus Septimius Tertullian

Ad Scapulam, 2

Religion

One religion is as true as another.

Robert Burton

The Anatomy of Melancholy.

Religion

Persecution is a bad and indirect way to plant religion.

Sir Thomas Browne

Religio Medici, I, 25

Religion

Profaneness is a low; groveling vice. He who indulges in it is no gentleman. I care not what his stamp may be in society—I care not what clothes he wears or what culture he boasts—despite all his refinement; the light and habitual taking of God's name in vain betrays a coarse nature and a brutal will.

E. H. Chapin

Religion

Religion has treated knowledge sometimes as an enemy, sometimes as a hostage; often as a captive and more often as a child; but knowledge has become of age and religion must either renounce her acquaintance, or introduce her as a companion and respect her as a friend.

Charles Caleb Colton (1780-1832)

The Lacon (1829)

Religion

Religion is an illusion of childhood, outgrown under proper education.

Auguste Comte (1798-1857)

quoted in Noyes, Views of Religion

Religion

Religion is excellent stuff for keeping common people quiet.

Napoleon Bonaparte

Religion

Religion is the idol of the mob; it adores everything it does not understand.

Frederick (II) The Great (1712-1784)

Letters to Voltaire, July 7, 1737

Religion

Religion is the interest of the churches

That sell in other worlds in this to purchase.

Samuel Butler

Religion

Religion should be the rule of life, not a casual incident in it.

Benjamin Disraeli (Earl of Beaconsfield) (1804-1881)

The Infernal Marriage (1834)

Religion

Religion stands on tiptoe in our land,

Ready to pass to the American strand.

George Herbert

The Church Militant, 235

Religion

Religion without Piety hath done more Mischief in the World, than all other Things put together.

Thomas Fuller (1654-1734)

Gnomologia (1732), No. 4012

Religion

Religion: A daughter of Hope and Fear, explaining to Ignorance the nature of the Unknowable.

Ambrose Bierce

Religion

Religious awe is the same organic thrill which we feel in a forest at twilight, or in a mountain gorge.

William James

Religion

Ruat coelum, fiat voluntas tua [Though the heaven falls, let Thy will be done].

Sir Thomas Browne

Religio Medici, II, 11

Religion

Sing, my tongue, the Savior's glory,

Of His Flesh the mystery sing;

Of the Blood, all price exceeding,

Shed by our immortal King.

St. Thomas Aquinas

Pange, Lingua (hymn for Vespers on the Feast of Corpus Christi), st. 1

Religion

So potent was religion in persuading to evil deeds.

Lucretius [Titus Lucretius Carus]

De Rerum Natura (On the Nature of Things), I, 101

Religion

Some of the most beautiful passages in the apostolic writings are quotations from pagan authors.

Henry Thomas Buckle

Religion

Sow a Jesuit, and you reap a rebel.

Jerome Bonaparte

Speech, Chamber of Deputies.

Religion

Tao is the storehouse of all things.

It is the good man's treasure and the bad man's refuge.

Lao Tzu

The Way of Lao Tzu 62

Religion

Tell, priests, what is gold doing in a holy place?

Persius [Aulus Persius Flaccus]

Satires, II, 69

Religion

The Church of Rome…has been and still is very pliant in regard to morals and very flexible in regard to dogmas…. This peculiarity, though strongly marked in the Romish Church, is by no means confined to it, but is found in every religious sect which is regularly organized.

Henry Thomas Buckle

Religion

The efficacy of religion lies precisely in what is not rational, philosophic, nor eternal; its efficacy lies in the unforeseen, the miraculous, the extraordinary. Thus religion attracts more devotion according as it demands more faith—that is to say, as it becomes more incredible to the profane mind.

Henri Frederic Amiel

Journal, June 5, 1870.

Religion

The evidence of the heavenly witnesses—the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost—would now be rejected in any court of Justice.

Edward Gibbon (1737-1794)

Quoted in Noyes, Views of Religion

Religion

The human race we have distributed into two parts, the one consisting of those who live according to man, the other of those who live according to God. And these we also mystically call the two cities, or the two communities of men, of which the one is predestined to reign eternally with God, and the other to suffer eternal punishment with the devil.

St. Augustine

The City of God.

Religion

The miseries derived to mankind from superstition under the name of religion, and of ecclesiastical tyranny under the name of church government, have been clearly and usefully exposed. We begin to think and the act from reason and from nature alone.

Edmund Burke

A Vindication of Natural Society, 1756.

Religion

The moment religion organizes into a specific creed it becomes a political force. From Moses down to Brigham Young, every creed-founder has been a State-builder.

Daniel Deleon (1852-1914)

The Vatican in Politics (1891)

Religion

The multitude of false churches accredits the true religion. Literature, poetry, science are the homage of man to his unfathomed secret, concerning which no sane man can affect an indifference or incuriousity. Nature is loved by what is best in us. It is loved as the city of God, although, or rather because there is no citizen.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Essays: Second Series (1844)

Religion

The one sword must be subordinate to the other; the earthly power must submit to the spiritual authority.

Boniface VIII

Bull, Unam Sanctam. November 18, 1302.

Religion

The people no longer believe in principles, but will probably periodically believe in saviours.

Jacob Burckhardt

Religion

The philosopher aspires to explain away all mysteries, to dissolve them into light. Mystery on the other hand is demanded and pursued by the religious instinct; mystery constitutes the essence of worship.

Henri Frederic Amiel

Journal, June 5, 1870.

Religion

The religion of one seems madness unto another.

Thomas Browne

Religion

The Roman Catholics, to avail the evils of imperfection, fallibility and imposture of man, have set up the Pope to be infallible; this is their security against being misguided in their faith, and be ascribing holiness to him, secure themselves from imposture; a deception, which is incompatible with holiness. So that in matters of faith, they have nothing more to do, but to believe as their church believes.

Ethan Allen

Reason the Only Oracle of Man, first edition, Bennington, Vt.,

1784; Scholars' Facsimiles & Reprints, N.Y.C., 1940. p. 454.

Religion

The Roman pontiff can and ought to reconcile himself, and come to terms with progress, liberalism, and modern civilization.

Pope Pius IX

Religion

The sentiment on which (papal) infallibility was founded could not be reached by argument, the weapon of human reason, but resided in conclusions transcending evidence, and was the inaccessible postulate rather than a demonstrable consequence of a system of religious faith.

Lord Acton (John E. E. Dalberg)

The History of Freedom and Other Essays, Introduction to Il Principe.

The Vatican Council.

Religion

The Tao [Way] that can be told of is not the eternal Tao;

The name that can be named is not the eternal name.

The Nameless is the origin of Heaven and Earth;

The Named is the mother of all things.

Therefore let there always be nonbeing, so we may see their subtlety,

And let there always be being, so we may see their outcome.

The two are the same,

But after they are produced, they have different names.

They both may be called deep and profound.

Deeper and more profound,

The door of all subtleties!

Lao Tzu

The Way of Lao Tzu 1

Religion

The true Church of England, at this moment, lies in the editors of its newspapers. These preach to the people, daily, weekly.

Thomas Carlyle

Religion

The upright, honest-hearted man

Who strives to do the best he can,

Need never fear the church's ban

Or hell's damnation.

Robert Burns

Religion

There are a set of religions, or rather moral writings, which teach that virtue is the certain road to happiness, and vice to misery, in this world. A very wholesome and comfortable doctrine, and to which we have but one objection, namely, that it is not true.

Henry Fielding (1707-1754)

Tom Jones (1749)

Religion

There can be no surer sign of decay in a country than to see the rites of religion held in contempt.

Niccolo Machiavelli

Religion

There goes many a ship to sea, with many hundred souls in one ship, whose weal and woe is common, and is a true picture of a commonwealth or a human combination or society. It hath fallen out sometimes that both papists and Protestants, Jews and Turks may be embarked in one ship; upon which supposal I affirm that all the liberty of conscience that ever I pleaded for turns upon these two hinges—that none of the papists, Protestants, Jews or Turks be forced to come to the ship's prayers or worship, nor compelled form their own particular prayers or worship, if they practice any. I further add that I never denied that, notwithstanding this liberty, the command the ship's course, yea, and also command that justice, peace, and sobriety be kept and practiced, both among the seamen and all the passengers.

Roger Williams

Letter to the Town of Providence

Religion

There is no Heaven, there is no Hell;

These are the dreams of baby minds;

Tools of the wily Fetisheer,

To fright the fools his cunning blinds.

Richard Francis Burton

The Kasidah, VIII.

Religion

There is only one inevitable criterion of judgment touching religious faith in doctrinal matters. Can you reduce it to practice? If not, have none of it.

Hosea Ballou

Religion

There should be religion for religion's sake, morality for morality's sake, and art for art's sake.

Victor Cousin (1792-1867)

Du Vrai, du Beau, et du Bien (Sorbonne Lecture, 1818; published, 1836)

Religion

They (the Puritans) saw clearly that of all the nonsense and delusion which had ever passed through the mind of man, none had ever been more extravagant than the notions of absolutions, indelible characters, uninterrupted successions, and the rest of those fantastical ideas, derived from the canon law, which had thrown such a glare of mystery, sanctity, reverence, and right reverend eminence and holiness around the idea of a priest as no mortal could deserve, and as always must, from the constitution of human nature, be dangerous to society. For this reason they demolished the whole system of diocesan episcopacy, and, deriding, as all reasonable and impartial men must do, the ridiculous fancies of sanctified effluvia from episcopal fingers, they established sacerdotal ordination on the foundation of the Bible and common sense.

John Adams

Dissertation on the Canon and the Feudal Law, 1765.

Religion

They even persuaded mankind to believe, faithfully and undoubtingly, that God Almighty had entrusted them with the keys of heaven, whose gates they might open and close at pleasure; with a power of dispensation over all the rules and obligations of morality; with authority to license all sorts of sins and crimes; with a power of deposing princes and absolving subjects from allegiance; with a power of procuring or withholding the rain of heaven and the beams of the sun; with the management of earthquakes, pestilence, and famine; nay, with the mysterious, awful, incomprehensible power of creating out of bread and wine the flesh and blood of God himself. All these opinions they were enabled to spread and rivet among the people by reducing their minds to a state of sordid ignorance and staring timidity, and by infusing into them a religious horror of letters and knowledge. Thus was human nature chained fast for ages in a cruel, shameful, and deplorable servitude to him and his subordinate tyrants, who, it was foretold, would exalt himself above all that was called God and that was worshipped.

John Adams

Dissertation on the Canon and the Feudal Law, 1765.

Religion

They that deny a God destroy man's nobility; for certainly man is of kin to the beasts by his body; and, if he be not kin to God by his spirit, he is a base and ignoble creature.

Francis Bacon

Religion

This authority, although granted to man, and exercised by man, is not a human authority, but rather a Divine one, granted to Peter by Divine commission and confirmed in him and his successors. Consequently, whoever opposes this power ordained by God opposes the law of God.

Boniface VIII

Bull, Unam Sanctam. November 18, 1302.

Religion

Thus Angels' Bread is made

The Bread of man today:

The Living Bread from Heaven

With figures doth away:

O wondrous gift indeed!

The poor and lowly may

Upon their Lord and Master feed.

St. Thomas Aquinas

Sacris Solemniis Juncta Sint Gaudia (Matins hymn for Corpus Christi),

St. 6 (Panis Angelicus)

Religion

To be furious in religion is to be irreligiously religious.

William Penn

Religion

Truly religious and learned theologians have never challenged the freedom of philosophers; while the true, civilized and well-organized philosophers have always favored religions. Both sides are aware that religion is needed for restraining rude populations, which have to be ruled, whereas rational demonstration is for such, of a contemplative nature, as know how to rule themselves and others.

Giordano Bruno

Heroic Furors, translated by L. Williams, Redway, 1887.

Religion

Turn, therefore, thy face towards the holy temple of Mecca; and wherever ye be, turn your faces towards that place.

The Koran

Chapter 2

Religion

We are ready to proclaim throughout Italy the great principle of a free church in a free state.

Camillo di Cavour

Address, March 27, 1861.

Religion

We are therefore about to establish a school of the Lord's service in which we hope to introduce nothing harsh or burdensome.

St. Benedict

Rule of St. Benedict, prologue

Religion

We have just enough religion to make us hate, but not enough to make us love one another.

Jonathan Swift

Religion

We look at it [Tao] and do not see it;

Its name is The Invisible.

We listen to it and do not hear it;

Its name is The Inaudible.

We touch it and do not find it;

Its name is The Subtle [formless].

Lao Tzu

The Way Of Lao Tzu 14

Religion

We praise Thee, O God,

For whatever perspicuity of language Thou hast taught us

And whatever eloquence Thou hast inspired us with.

Abu Mohammed Kasim Ben Ali Hariri

Makamat. Prayer

Religion

We, too, have our religion, and it is this: Help for the living, hope for the dead.

Robert G. Ingersoll

Religion

What havoc has been made of books through every century of the Christian era? Where are fifty gospels, condemned as spurious by the bull of Pope Gelasius? Where are the forty wagon-loads of Hebrew manuscripts burned in France, by order of another pope, because suspected of heresy? Remember the index expurgatorius, the inquisition, the stake, the axe, the halter, and the guillotine.

John Adams

Letter to John Taylor, The Life and Works of John Adams, Boston, 1851, v. 6,

p. 479.

Religion

What yesterday was still religion is no longer such today; and what today is atheism tomorrow will be religion.

Ludwig Feuerbach (1804-1872)

The Essence of Christianity (1841)

Religion

Whence is it that so many peoples, together with their innocent little children, should be delivered to death eternal through the fall of Adam, unless it should please God.

John Calvin

Religion

Whenever philosophy has taken into its plan religion, it has ended in skepticism; and whenever religion excludes philosophy, or the spirit of free inquiry, it leads to wilful blindness and superstition.

Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1772-1834)

Quoted in Allsop's Letters, Conversations, and Reflections (1836)

Religion

Wherever ye be, God will bring you all back at the resurrection.

The Koran

Chapter 2

Religion

While just government protects all in their religious rites, true religion affords government its surest support.

George Washington

Religion

Whoever considers the study of anatomy; I believe; will never be an atheist. The frame of a man's body and the coherence of his parts are so strange and paradoxical that I hold him to be the greatest miracle of Nature.

Lord Herbert

Religion

Why, they ask, do not those miracles, which you preach of as past events, happen nowadays? I might reply that they were necessary before the world believed, to bring the world to believe.

St. Augustine

The City of God.

Religion

With soap baptism is a good thing.

Robert G. Ingersoll

Religion

Yet, mighty God, yet shall thy frown look forth

Unveiled, and terribly shall shake the earth.

Then the foul power of priestly sin and all

Its long-upheld idolatries shall fall.

Thou shalt raise up the trampled and oppressed,

And thy delivered saints shall dwell in rest.

William Cullen Bryant

Hymn of the Waldenses, 1824.

Religion

You have conquered, Galilean.

Julian [The Apostate]

From Theodoret, Church History, III, 20

Faith

Philosophical argument, especially that drawn from the vastness of the universe, in comparison with the apparent insignificance of this globe, has sometime shaken my reason for the faith that is in me; but my heart has always assured and reassured me that the gospel of Jesus Christ must be a divine reality.

Daniel Webster

Reluctance

Even if you persuade me, you won't persuade me.

Aristophanes

Plutus, 600

Reluctance

There is nothing so easy but that it becomes difficult when you do it with reluctance.

Terence

Heauton Timorumenos

Reluctance

Unwillingly I left your land, O Queen.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aeneid, VI, 460

Repentance

Extract yourself from bad ways like an elephant stuck in the mud.

Suttapitaka

Repentance

He that never changes his opinion never corrects mistakes and will never be wiser on the morrow than he is today.

Tyron Edwards

Repentance

If we put off repentance another day; we have a day more to repent of and a day less in which to repent.

C. A. Mason

Repentance

If you are not right toward God, you can never be so toward men.

Lord Chatham

Repentance

If you are tempted to lose patience with your fellowman; stop and think how patient God has been with you.

Author Unknown

Repentance

It is not men's faults that ruin them, so much as the manner in which they conduct themselves after the faults have been committed. The wise will profit by the suffering they cause and eschew in the future. But there are those on whom experience exerts no ripening influence, who only grow narrower and bitterer and more vicious with time.

Samuel Smiles

Repentance

No possible rearrangement of bad eggs can ever make a good omelette.

Chinese Proverb

Repentance

Of all acts is not repentance most divine? The greatest of all faults is to be conscious of none.

Thomas Carlyle

Repentance

There is no man so bad but that he secretly respects good.

Henry Fielding

Repentance

True repentance always involves reform.

Hosea Ballou

Repentance

You cannot repent too soon, because you do not know how soon it may be too late.

Thomas Fuller

Representation

One half of our brethren who fight and pay taxes, are excluded, like Helots, from the rights of representation, as if society were instituted for the soil, and not for the men inhabiting it; or one half of these could dispose of the rights and the will of the other half without their consent.

Thomas Jefferson, letter to John Taylor, May 28, 1816.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Paul L. Ford, vol. 10, p. 30 (1899).

Representation

Were our State a pure democracy, in which all its inhabitants should meet together to transact all their business, there would yet be excluded from their deliberations, 1. infants, until arrived at years of discretion. 2. Women, who, to prevent depravation of morals and ambiguity of issue, could not mix promiscuously in the public meetings of men. 3. Slaves, from whom the unfortunate state of things with us takes away the right of will and of property. Those then who have no will could be permitted to exercise none in the popular assembly; and of course, could delegate none to an agent in a representative assembly. The business, in the first case, would be done by qualified citizens only.

Thomas Jefferson, letter to Samuel Kercheval, September 5, 1816.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Paul L. Ford, vol. 10, pp. 45-46, footnote 1 (1899).

Representation

[Many agricultural counties] are far more important in the life of the State than their population bears to the entire population of the State. It is for this reason that I have never been in favor of restricting their representation in our State Senate to a strictly population basis. It is the same reason that the founding fathers of our country gave balanced representation to the States of the Union, equal representation in one House and proportionate representation based upon population in the other.

Earl Warren, governor of California, speech at Merced, California, October 29, 1948, as reported by the San Francisco Chronicle, October 30, 1948, p. 3.

Warren was asking for a "no" vote on a proposition which would reconstitute the state senate on the basis of population.

Reprove

Reprove thy friend privately, commend him publicly.

Solon

Republic

"Well, Doctor, what have we got—a Republic or a Monarchy?"

"A Republic, if you can keep it."

The response is attributed to Benjamin Franklin

—at the close of the Constitutional Convention of 1787,

when queried as he left Independence Hall

on the final day of deliberation

—in the notes of Dr. James McHenry,

one of Maryland's delegates to the Convention.

McHenry's notes were first published in The American Historical Review,

vol. 11, 1906, and the anecdote on p. 618 reads:

"A lady asked Dr. Franklin Well Doctor what have we got a republic

or a monarchy. A republic replied the Doctor if you can keep it."

When McHenry's notes were included in The Records of the

Federal Convention of 1787, ed. Max Farrand, vol. 3, appendix A,

p. 85 (1911, reprinted 1934), a footnote stated that the

date this anecdote was written is uncertain.

Republic

But every difference of opinion is not a difference of principle. We have called by different names brethren of the same principle. We are all republicans—we are federalists.

President Thomas Jefferson, inaugural address, March 4, 1801.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Andrew A. Lipscomb, vol. 3, p. 319 (1904).

Republic

I am a Republican, a black, dyed in the wool Republican, and I never intend to belong to any other party than the party of freedom and progress.

Attributed to Frederick Douglass. Unverified.

Republic

I knew that however bad the Republican party was, the Democratic party was much worse. The elements of which the Republican party was composed gave better ground for the ultimate hope of the success of the colored man's cause than those of the Democratic party.

Frederick Douglass, Life and Times of Frederick Douglass, chapter 47, p. 579 (1941).

Republic

I recognize the Republican party as the sheet anchor of the colored man's political hopes and the ark of his safety.

Frederick Douglass, letter to men from Petersburg, Virginia, August 15, 1888.—Douglass papers, Library of Congress.The Petersburg men had written Douglass seeking advice about supporting John M. Langston as their Republican candidate for Congress. He would be their first black representative, but earlier he had worked against the Republican party. Douglass called him a trickster and said not to support anyone "whose mad ambition would imperil the success of the Republican party."

Republic

In truth, the abuses of monarchy had so much filled all the space of political contemplation, that we imagined everything republican which was not monarchy. We had not yet penetrated to the mother principle, that "governments are republican only in proportion as they embody the will of their people, and execute it." Hence, our first constitutions had really no leading principles in them. But experience and reflection have but more and more confirmed me in the particular importance of the equal representation then proposed.

Thomas Jefferson, letter to Samuel Kercheval, July 12, 1816.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Paul L. Ford, vol. 10, p. 37 (1899).

Republic

Indeed there are some Republicans I would trust with anything—anything, that is, except public office.

Adlai E. Stevenson, governor of Illinois, campaign speech, Illinois state fair, Springfield, Illinois, August 14, 1952.—Major Campaign Speeches of Adlai E. Stevenson, 1952, p. 14 (1953).

Republic

The Republic needed to be passed through chastening, purifying fires of adversity and suffering: so these came and did their work and the verdure of a new national life springs greenly, luxuriantly, from their ashes.

Horace Greeley, Greeley on Lincoln, ed. Joel Benton, pp. 78-79 (1893). He is referring to the Civil War.

Republic

When a monarchy gradually transforms itself into a republic, the executive power there preserves titles, honors, respect, and even money long after it has lost the reality of power. The English, having cut off the head of one of their kings and chased another off the throne, still go on their knees to address the successors of those princes. On the other hand, when a republic falls under one man's yoke, the ruler's demeanor remains simple, unaffected, and modest, as if he had not already been raised above everybody.

Alexis de Tocqueville, Democracy in America, ed. J. P Mayer, trans. George Lawrence, vol. I, part 1, chapter 8, p. 123 (1969). Originally published in 1835-1840. Republican Party

Republic

You and your descendants have to ascertain whether this great mass will hold together under the forms of a republic, and the despotic reality of universal suffrage; whether state rights will hold out against centralisation, without separation, whether centralisation will get the better, without actual or disguised monarchy; whether shifting corruption is better than a permanent bureaucracy; and as population thickens in your great cities, and the pressure of what is felt, the gaunt spectre of pauperism will stalk among you, and communism and socialism will claim to be heard.

Thomas Henry Huxley, Science and Education, p. 138 (1904).

Reputation

But he that filches from me my good name,

Robs me of that which not enriches him,

And makes me poor indeed.

William Shakespeare

Othello

Reputation

Gain at the expense of reputation is manifest loss.

Publilius Syrus

Reputation

My name and memory I leave to men's charitable speeches, to foreign nations, and to the next age.

Francis Bacon

Reputation

Reputation, reputation, reputation! O! I have lost my reputation. I have lost the immortal part of myself, and what remains is bestial.

William Shakespeare

Othello, II, iii, 264

Reputation

To disregard what the world thinks of us is not only arrogant but shameless.

Cicero

De Oficiis

Reputation

You can't build a reputation on what you are going to do.

Henry Ford

Reputation

A good reputation is more valuable than money.

Publilius Syrus

Reputation

Glass, china, and reputation are easily cracked, and never mended well.

Benjamin Franklin

Reputation

One may be better than his reputation, but never better than his principles.

Nicolas Latena

Reputation

Reputation is what men and women think of us; character is what God and Angels know of us.

Thomas Paine

Reputation

Reputations will continue to be made by many acts and be lost by one.

Author Unknown

Reputation

The way to gain good reputation is to endeavor to be what you desire to appear.

Socrates

Reputation

When wealth is lost, nothing is lost: when health is lost, something is lost: when character is lost, all is lost.

German Proverb

Resolve/Resolution

I never pray to win, I just pray to be in my best form.

Carl Erskine

Resolve/Resolution

It is a great evil, as well as a misfortune, to be able to utter a prompt and decided 'NO!!!'

Charles Simmons

Resolve/Resolution

Resolve, and thou art free.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Resolve/Resolution

Not snow, no, nor rain, nor heat, nor night keeps them from accomplishing their appointed courses with all speed.

Herodotus

Resolve/Resolution

People do not lack strength; they lack will.

Victor Hugo

Resolve/Resolution

The quality of a man's life is dependent upon his strength of will to accept or reject the issues of life, nor as he wants them to be, but as they are.

Paul A. Anderson

Respect

A fisherman may measure his catch by the size, but when is a man big enough to keep?

Author Unknown

Respect

Away from home, a man is judged by what he means—at home, by what he is.

Lao Tse

Respect

Do you wish men to speak well of you? Then never speak well of yourself.

Blaise Pascal

Respect

Don't throw stones at your neighbors', if your own windows are glass.

Benjamin Franklin

Respect

Even a tombstone says good things about a fellow who's down.

Author Unknown

Respect

Every individual has a place to fill in the world, and is important in some respect, whether he chooses to be so or not.

Nathaniel Hawthorne

Respect

I always prefer to believe the best of everybody, it saves so much time.

Author Unknown

Respect

I knew my trainer believed in me and I couldn't let Him down.

Author Unknown

Respect

If you want to get across an idea, wrap it up in a person.

Ralph Bunche

Respect

Men are created that they may live for each other, teach them to be better or bear them as they are.

Marcus Aurelius

Respect

Never does a man portray his own character more vividly than in his manner of portraying another.

Jean Paul Richter

Respect

No man is a true gentleman who does not inspire the affection and devotion of his servants.

Andrew Carnegie

Respect

Putrid flesh has but one flavor.

Lao Tse

Respect

Stand with anybody that stands right while he is right and part with him when he goes wrong.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Respect

The man who appeals to the best side of his fellows is rarely disappointed.

Author Unknown

Respect

The man who lacks faith in other men loses his best chance to work, and gradually undermines his own power and his own character.

Arthur T. Hadley

Respect

There is so much good in the worst of us, and so much bad in the best of us, it's hard to tell which one of us ought to reform the rest of us.

Author Unknown

Respect

Thou art my master and my author; thou art he from whom alone I took the style whose beauty has done me honor.

Dante

Respect

You don't have to blow out the other fellow's light to let your own shine.

Bernard Baruch

Respect

You honor dead Buddhas, but the living Buddhas you do not honor.

Mencius

Respect

You may fail to shine in the opinion of others both in your conversation and actions, from being superior as well as inferior to them.

Greville

Responsibility

A councilor ought not to sleep the whole night through, a man to whom the populace is entrusted, and who has many responsibilities.

Homer

The Iliad, II, 24

Responsibility

A hundred times every day I remind myself that my inner and outer life are based on the labors of other men, living and dead, and that I must exert myself in order to give in the same measure as I have received and am still receiving.

Albert Einstein, "The World as I See It," Ideas and Opinions, trans. Sonja Bargmann, p. 8 (1954).

Responsibility

For of those to whom much is given, much is required. And when at some future date the high court of history sits in judgment on each of us—recording whether in our brief span of service we fulfilled our responsibilities to the state—our success or failure, in whatever office we hold, will be measured by the answers to four questions:

First, were we truly men of courage—with the courage to stand up to one's enemies—and the courage to stand up, when necessary, to one's associates—the courage to resist public pressure, as well as private greed?

Secondly, were we truly men of judgment—with perceptive judgment of the future as well as the past—of our mistakes as well as the mistakes of others—with enough wisdom to know what we did not know and enough candor to admit it.

Third, were we truly men of integrity—men who never ran out on either the principles in which we believed or the men who believed in us—men whom neither financial gain nor political ambition could ever divert from the fulfillment of our sacred trust?

Finally, were we truly men of dedication—with an honor mortgaged to no single individual or group, and comprised of no private obligation or aim, but devoted solely to serving the public good and the national interest?

Courage—judgment—integrity—dedication—these are the historic qualities . which, with God's help…will characterize our Government's conduct in the 4 stormy years that lie ahead.

President-elect John F. Kennedy, address to the Massachusetts legislature, January 9, 1961.—Congressional Record, January 10, 1961, vol. 107, Appendix, p. A169.

Responsibility

For we must consider that we shall be as a City upon a hill. The eyes of all people are upon us. So that if we shall deal falsely with our God in this work we have undertaken, and so cause him to withdraw his present help from us, we shall be made a story and a byword throughout the world.

John Winthrop, governor of Massachusetts Bay Colony, "A Modell of Christian Charity," discourse written aboard the Arbella during the voyage to Massachusetts, 1630.—Robert C. Winthrop, Life and Letters of John Winthrop, p. 19 (1867).Robert C. Winthrop was a representative from Massachusetts, 1840-1850, and was Speaker of the House 1847-1849; he was a senator from Massachusetts 1850-1851.

Walter F. Mondale referred to the "city on a hill" in a presidential campaign speech in Cleveland, Ohio, October 25, 1984; The Washington Post account notes that this quotation from Winthrop is a favorite of President Reagan's.—October 26, 1984, p. 1.

President-elect John F. Kennedy said, in an address to the Massachusetts Legislature on January 9, 1961, "During the last 60 days I have been engaged in the task of constructing an administration….I have been guided by the standard John Winthrop set before his shipmates on the flagship Arabella [sic] 331 years ago, as they, too, faced the task of building a government on a new and perilous frontier. 'We must always consider he said, 'that we shall be as a city upon a hill—the eyes of all people are upon us.' Today the eyes of all people are truly upon us—and our governments, in every branch, at every level, national, State, and local, must be as a city upon a hill—constructed and inhabited by men aware of their grave trust and their great responsibilities."—Congressional Record, January 10, 1961, vol. 107, Appendix, p. A169. For another portion of this speech, see No. 1494.

Responsibility

God has lent us the earth for our life; it is a great entail. It belongs as much to those who are to come after us, and whose names are already written in the book of creation, as to us; and we have no right, by anything that we do or neglect, to involve them in unnecessary penalties, or deprive them of benefits which it was in our power to bequeath.

John Ruskin, "The Lamp of Memory," The Seven Lamps of Architecture, chapter 6, section 9, p. 248 (1907).

Responsibility

If I knew something useful to me and harmful to my family, I should put it out of my mind. If I knew something useful to my family and not to my country, I should try to forget it. If I knew something useful to my country and harmful to Europe, or useful to Europe and harmful to the human race, I should consider it a crime.

Montesquieu.—Robert John Loy, Montesquieu, chapter 3, p. 122 (1968). Before giving this translation, Loy says, "Montesquieu was so fond of the passage that he composed it in several forms; it stands as his philosophical emblem." For the original French, see Montesquieu, Oeuvres Completes, p. 981 (1949).

Responsibility

Physical misery is great everywhere out here [Africa]. Are we justified in shutting our eyes and ignoring it because our European newspapers tell us nothing about it? We civilised people have been spoilt. If any one of us is ill the doctor comes at once. Is an operation necessary, the door of some hospital or other opens to us immediately. But let every one reflect on the meaning of the fact that out here millions and millions live without help or hope of it. Every day thousands and thousands endure the most terrible sufferings, though medical science could avert them. Every day there prevails in many and many afaroff hut a despair which we could banish. Will each of my readers think what the last ten years of his family history would have been if they had been passed without medical or surgical help of any sort? It is time that we should wake from slumber and face our responsibilities!

Albert Schweitzer, On the Edge of the Primeval Forest, trans. C. T. Campion, p. 115 (1948, reprinted 1976).

Responsibility

Responsibility walks hand in hand with capacity and power.

J. G. Holland

Responsibility

The Buck Stops Here

President Harry S. Truman, motto on his White House desk.—Alfred Steinberg, Harry S. Truman, p. 185 (1963).

Responsibility

There is a mysterious cycle in human events. To some generations much is given. Of other generations much is expected. This generation of Americans has a rendezvous with destiny.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt, speech accepting renomination for the presidency, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, June 27, 1936.—The Public Papers and Addresses of Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1936, p. 235 (1938).

Responsibility

There is no sort of wrong deed for which a man can bear the punishment alone.

George Eliot

Responsibility

Upon the standard to which the wise and honest will now repair it is written: "You have lived the easy way; henceforth, you will live the hard way…. You came into a great heritage made by the insight and the sweat and the blood of inspired and devoted and courageous men; thoughtlessly and in utmost self-indulgence you have all but squandered this inheritance. Now only by the heroic virtues which made this inheritance can you restore it again. . You took the good things for granted. Now you must earn them again…. For every right that you cherish, you have a duty which you must fulfill. For every hope that you entertain, you have a task that you must perform. For every good that you wish to preserve, you will have to sacrifice your comfort and your ease. There is nothing for nothing any longer."

Walter Lippmann, speech to the Harvard Class of 1910 at their thirtieth reunion, June 18, 1940.—Walter Lippmann papers, Yale University Library.

President Jimmy Carter quoted from the latter part of this passage, with slight variations, in his State of the Union address to Congress, January 23, 1980.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Jimmy Carter, 1980-81, book 1, p. 200.

Responsibility

You cannot escape the responsibility of tomorrow by evading it today.

Abraham Lincoln

Rest

The best cure for the body is to clear the mind.

Napoleon Bonaparte

Retreat

Let us make an honorable retreat; though not with bag and baggage, yet with scrip and scrippage.

William Shakespeare

As You Like It, III, ii, 170

Revenge

An act by which we make one friend and one enemy is a losing game; because revenge is a much stronger principle than gratitude.

Charles C. Colton

Revenge

Arise from my bones, avenger of these wrongs!

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aeneid, IV, 625

Revenge

For revenge is always the delight of a mean spirit, of a weak and petty mind! You may immediatley draw proof of this—that no one rejoices more in revenge than a woman.

Decimus Junius Juvenal

Satires, XIII, 189

Revenge

Revenge is a kind of wild justice, which the more man's nature runs to, the more ought law to weed it out.

Francis Bacon

Essays, Of Revenge

Revenge

Revenge is an act of passion; vengeance of justice: injuries are revenged; crimes are avenged.

Dr. Samuel Johnson

Revenge

The Friar. There is, indeed, no serpent so cruel,

When man treads on his tail, nor half so fell,

As woman is when she is filled with ire;

Vengeance is then the whole of her desire.

Geoffrey Chaucer, Canterbury Tales: Summoner's Tale

Revenge

Which if not victory is yet revenge.

John Milton

Paradise Lost, II, 105

Reverence

Religion is the tie that connects man to his Creator; and holds him to His throne.

Daniel Webster

Reverence

Reverence is one of the signs of strength, irreverence one of the surest indications of weakness. No man will rise high who jeers at sacred things. The fine loyalties of life must be reverenced or they will be foresworn in the day of trial.

Author Unknown

Revolution

As it was 189 years ago, so today the cause of America is a revolutionary cause. And I am proud this morning to salute you as fellow revolutionaries. Neither you nor I are willing to accept the tyranny of poverty, nor the dictatorship of ignorance, nor the despotism of ill health, nor the oppression of bias and prejudice and bigotry. We want change. We want progress. We want it both abroad and at home—and we aim to get it.

President Lyndon B. Johnson, remarks to college students employed by the government during the summer August 4, 1965.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Lyndon B. Johnson, 1965, book 2, p. 830.

Revolution

But above all, what this Congress can be remembered for is opening the way to a new American revolution—a peaceful revolution in which power was turned back to the people—in which government at all levels was refreshed and renewed and made truly responsive. This can be a revolution as profound, as far-reaching, as exciting as that first revolution almost 200 years ago—and it can mean that just 5 years from now America will enter its third century as a young nation new in spirit, with all the vigor and the freshness with which it began its first century.

President Richard M. Nixon, State of the Union address to a joint session of Congress, January 22, 1971.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Richard Nixon, 1971, p. 58.

Revolution

I am a revolutionist by birth, reading and principle. I am always on the side of the revolutionists because there never was a revolution unless there were some oppressive and intolerable conditions against which to revolute.

Samuel Langhorne Clemens ("Mark Twain") (1835-1910)

Interview, April 15 1906, New York Sun, Tribune, World, in defense of Maxim Gorki

Revolution

If one would make a thorough revolution, one must attack things and relationships, destroy property and the State. Then there would be no need to destroy men.

Mikhail A. Bakunin

Gesammelte Werke, II, 87.

Revolution

In revolutions the occasions may be trifling but great interests are at stake.

Aristotle

Politics, V, 3

Revolution

Make the Revolution a parent of settlement, and not a nursery of future revolutions.

Edmund Burke

Reflections on the Revolution in France, 1790.

Revolution

Many of the world's troubles are not due just to Russia or communism. They would be with us in any event because we live in an era of revolution—the revolution of rising expectations. In Asia, the masses now count for something. Tomorrow, they will count for more. And, for better or for worse, the future belongs to those who understand the hopes and fears of masses in ferment. The new nations want independence, including the inalienable right to make their own mistakes. The people want respect—and something to eat every day. And they want something better for their children.

Adlai E. Stevenson, The Papers of Adlai E. Stevenson, vol. 5, p. 411 (1974).

First published in Look, September 22, 1953, p. 46, in the concluding article in a series about his five-month trip around the world.

Revolution

Next, and as a consequence, the revolt of each against the tyranny of men, against the authority, individual as much as social, represented and legalized by the State.

Mikhail A. Bakunin

Oeuvres, Vol. I, p. 143; quoted by Adler, p. 374.

Revolution

No revolution can count on success if it does not speedily spread beyond the individual to all other nations.

Mikhail A. Bakunin

Gesammelte Werke, II, 91.

Revolution

Finally we shall place the sun itself at the center of the Universe. All this is suggested by the systematic procession of events and the harmony of the whole Universe, if only we face the facts, as they say, "with both eyes open."

Nicholas Copernicus (1473-1543)

De revolutionibus orbium coelestium (1530; pub. 1543)

Revolution

Remember, Razumov, that women, children and revolutionists hate irony, which is the negation of all saving instincts, of all faith, of all devotion, or all action.

Joseph Conrad (né Korzeniowski)

Under Western Eyes (1911)

Revolution

REVOLUTION, accordingly, stands on its own bottom, hence it cannot be overthrown; REFORM leans upon others, hence its downfall is certain.

Daniel Deleon (1852-1914)

Reform or Revolution

Revolution

Revolutions are not improvised. They are not made at will by individuals. They come through the force of circumstances, and are independent of any deliberate will or conspiracy. They can be foreseen, but their explosion can never be accelerated.

Mikhail A. Bakunin

Gesammelte Werke, Golos trude edition, IV, 21.

Revolution

The American Revolution…was a conservative revolution.

William Ewart Gladstone (1809-1898)

Contribution, North American Review, September, 1878

Revolution

The causes and motives of sedition are, innovation in religion; taxes; alteration of laws and customs; breaking of privileges; general oppression; advancement of unworthy persons, strangers; dearths; disbanded soldiers; factions grown desperate; and whatsoever in offending a people joineth them in a common cause.

Francis Bacon

Essays. Of Seditions and Troubles.

Revolution

The revolutionist despises every sort of doctrinairism and has renounced the peaceful scientific pursuits leaving them to future generations. He knows only one science, the science of destruction.

Mikhail A. Bakunin

Catechism of the Revolution (The Nechaev Catechism), Article 5.

Revolution

The revolutionist is a doomed man. He has no personal interests, no affairs, sentiments, attachments, property, not even a name of his own. Everything in him is absorbed by one exclusive interest, one thought, one passion—the revolution.

Mikhail A. Bakunin

Catechism of the Revolution (The Nechaev Catechism), Article 1.

Revolution

This means we must subject the machine—technology—to control and cease despoiling the earth and filling people with goodies merely to make money. The search of the young today is more specific than the ancient search for the Holy Grail. The search of the youth today is for ways and means to make the machine—and the vast bureaucracy of the corporation state and of government that runs that machine—the servant of man.

That is the revolution that is coming.

That revolution—now that the people hold the residual powers of government—need not be a repetition of 1776. It could be a revolution in the nature of an explosive political regeneration. It depends on how wise the Establishment is. If, with its stockpile of arms, it resolves to suppress the dissenters, America will face, I fear an awful ordeal.

Justice William O. Douglas, Points of Rebellion, pp. 96-97 (1970).

Revolution

Those who make peaceful revolution impossible will make violent revolution inevitable.

President John F. Kennedy, address to the diplomatic corps of the Latin American republics on the first anniversary of the Alliance for Progress, March 13, 1962.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: John F Kennedy, 1962, p. 223.

Revolution

To him (the revolutionist) whatever aids the triumph of the revolution is ethical; all that which hinders it is unethical and criminal.

Mikhail A. Bakunin

Catechism of the Revolution (The Nechaev Catechism), Article 4.

Revolution

To my utter despair I have discovered, and discover everyday anew, that there is in the masses no revolutionary idea or hope or passion.

Mikhail A. Bakunin

(Written in 1876), Gesammelte Werke, II, 272.

Revolution

We must realize that today's establishment is the new George 111. Whether it will continue to adhere to his tactics, we do not know. If it does, the redress, honored in tradition, is also revolution.

Justice William O. Douglas, Points of Rebellion, p. 95 (1970).

Revolution/Rebellion

Civil confusions often spring from trifles but decide great issues.

Aristotle

Revolution/Rebellion

God forbid we should ever be twenty years without such a rebellion!

Thomas Jefferson

Revolution/Rebellion

I have seen gross intolerance shown in support of tolerance.

Samuel Taylor Coleridge

Revolution/Rebellion

In revolutions authority remains with the greatest scoundrels.

Georges Jacques Danton

Revolution/Rebellion

Man has liberated himself (by breaking the divine commandment not to eat of the tree of knowledge), he has divided himself from animal nature and made himself man; he began his history and his human development with this act of disobedience and knowledge, i.e., with rebellion and thought.

Mikhail A. Bakunin

Gesammelte Werke, I, 102.

Revolution/Rebellion

The destruction of our State governments or the annihilation of their control over the local concerns of the people would lead directly to revolution and anarchy, and finally to despotism and military domination.

Andrew Jackson

Revolutionary War

HERE were held the

town-meetings that

ushered in the Revolution

HERE Samuel Adams, James Otis

and Joseph Warren exhorted

HERE the men of Boston proved

themselves independent

courageous freemen

worthy to raise issues

which were to concern the

liberty and happiness

of millions yet unborn

Author unknown. Sign at the main entrance of the Old South Meeting House, Boston, Massachusetts.

Revolutionary War

Americans developed the resourcefulness and wisdom to solve the problem of organizing a nation in the midst of war and crisis, one of the greatest achievements of modern political history. The Americans of the Revolutionary generation proved themselves the most creative statesmen in modern history, perhaps in all history. They established institutions that have had a more lasting influence than any established anywhere else.

Henry Steele Commager, interview with John A. Garraty.—Garraty, Interpreting American History, Conversations with Historians, part 1, p. 1-100 (1970).

Revolutionary War

An honorable Peace is and always was my first wish! I can take no delight in the effusion of human Blood; but, if this War should continue, I wish to have the most active part in it.

John Paul Jones, letter to Gouverneur Morris, September 2, 1782.—Robert Morris Letter Book, Rosenbach Collection No. 33, Manuscript Collection, U.S. Naval Academy Museum, Annapolis, Maryland. This sentence is reprinted in Lincoln Lorenz, John Paul Jones, Fighter for Freedom and Glory, p. xiv (1943).

Revolutionary War

As to the history of the revolution, my ideas may be peculiar perhaps singular. What do we mean by the revolution? The war? That was no part of the revolution; it was only an effect and consequence of it. The revolution was in the minds of the people, and this was effected from 1760 to 1775, in the course of fifteen years, before a drop of blood was shed at Lexington.

John Adams, letter to Thomas Jefferson, August 24, 1815.—The Works of John Adams, ed. Charles Francis Adams, vol. 10, p. 172 (1856).

Revolutionary War

Every proceeding respecting myself has been so thoroughly mortifying, that nothing but the integrity of my heart, and the fervency of my Zeal Supports me under it….Change then your opinion of one foreigner, who from his intrance into your Service, has never the cause to be pleased; who, in Europe, is by Rank superior to all that are in your Service; who certainly is not inferior in Zeal and Capacity and who perhaps, may have been considered as one who came to beg your favour. Be more just, Gentlemen, and Know that as I could not Submit to Stoop before the Sovereigns of Europe, So I came to hazard all the freedom of America, and desirous of passing the rest of my life in a Country truly free and before settling as a Citizen, to fight for Liberty.

Casimir Pulaski, farewell address to Congress, Charleston, South Carolina, August 19, 1779.—R. D. Jamro, Pulaski: A Portrait of Freedom, appendix Y, pp. 199, 200 (1981).

Revolutionary War

I have not yet begun to fight.

John Paul Jones, captain of the Bonhomme Richard, reply to the British ship Serapis, September 23, 1779.The exact wording of his reply is uncertain, and several accounts exist. The standard version above is from an account of the engagement by one of Jones's officers, First Lieutenant Richard Dale.—John Henry Sherburne, The Life and Character of John Paul Jones, 2d ed., p. 121 (1851).

Sherburne includes Jones's letter of October 3, 1779, to Benjamin Franklin, where he says, p. 116, "The English commodore asked me if I demanded quarters, and I having answered him in the most determined negative, they renewed the battle with double fury."Benjamin Rush writes, "I heard a minute account of his engagement with the Seraphis in a small circle of gentlemen at a dinner. It was delivered with great apparent modesty and commanded the most respectful attention. Towards the close of the battle, while his deck was swimming in blood, the captain of the Seraphis called him to strike. 'No, Sir,' said he, 'I will not, we have had but a small fight as yet.' "—The Autobiography of Benjamin Rush, ed. George W Corner, p. 157 (1948).

Revolutionary War

The country shall be independent, and we will be satisfied with nothing short of it.

Samuel Adams, remark in "small confidential companies."—William Gordon, The History of the Rice, Progress, and Establishment, of the Independence of the United States of America, vol. 1, entry for March 9, 1774, p. 347 (1788, reprinted 1969).

Revolutionary War

The Revolution was effected before the war commenced. The Revolution was in the hearts and minds of the people….This radical change in the principles, opinions, sentiments, and affections of the people, was the real American Revolution.

John Adams

To Hezekiah Niles, February 13, 1818.

Revolutionary War

The time is now near at hand which must probably determine, whether Americans are to be, Freemen, or Slaves; whether they are to have any property they can call their own; whether their Houses, and Farms, are to be pillaged and destroyed, and they consigned to a State of Wretchedness from which no human efforts will probably deliver them. The fate of unborn Millions will now depend, under God, on the Courage and Conduct of Revolutionary War (1775-1783) this army—Our cruel and unrelenting Enemy leaves us no choice but a brave resistance, or the most abject submission; that is all we can expect—We have therefore to resolve to conquer or die.

General George Washington, general orders, July 2, 1776.—The Writings of George Washington, ed. John C. Fitzpatrick, vol. 5, p. 211 (1932).

Revolutionary War

To morrow being the day set apart by the Honorable Congress for public Thanksgiving and Praise; and duty calling us devoutely to express our grateful acknowledgements to God for the manifold blessings he has granted us. The General directs that the army remain in it's present quarters, and that the Chaplains perform divine service with their several Corps and brigades. And earnestly exhorts, all officers and soldiers, whose absence is not indispensibly necessary, to attend with reverence the solemnities of the day.

General George Washington, general orders, December 17, 1777.—The Writings of George Washington, ed. John C. Fitzpatrick, vol. 10, p. 168 (1933).

Revolutionary War

Yet where does this anarchy exist? Where did it ever exist, except in the single instance of Massachusetts? And can history produce an instance of a rebellion so honourably conducted?….God forbid we should ever be 20. years without such a rebellion. The people can not be all, and always, well informed. The part which is wrong will be discontented in proportion to the importance of the facts they misconceive. If they remain quiet under such misconceptions it is a lethargy, the forerunner of death to the public liberty.

Thomas Jefferson, letter to William Stephens Smith, November 13, 1787.—The Papers of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Julian P. Boyd, vol. 12, p. 356 (1955).

Revolutionary War

You say that at the time of the Congress, in 1765, "The great mass of the people were zealous in the cause of America." "The great mass of the people" is an expression that deserves analysis. New York and Pennsylvania were so nearly divided, if their propensity was not against us, that if New England on one side and Virginia on the other had not kept them in awe, they would have joined the British. Marshall, in his life of Washington, tells us, that the southern States were nearly equally divided. Look into the Journals of Congress, and you will see how seditious, how near rebellion were several counties of New York, and how much trouble we had to compose them. The last contest, in the town of Boston, in 1775, between whig and tory, was decided by five against two. Upon the whole, if we allow two thirds of the people to have been with us in the revolution, is not the allowance ample? Are not two thirds of the nation now with the administration? Divided we ever have been, and ever must be. Two thirds always had and will have more difficulty to struggle with the one third than with all our foreign enemies.

John Adams, letter to Thomas McKean, August 31, 1813.—The Works of John Adams, ed. Charles Francis Adams, vol. 10, p. 63 (1856).He referred to a Congress "held at New York, A.D. 1765, on the subject of the American stamp act" (p. 62).

Revolutionary War

You will therefore send me none but Natives, and Men of some property, if you have them.

General George Washington, letter to his regimental commanders, April 30, 1777.—The Writings of George Washington, ed. John C. Fitzpatrick, vol. 7, p. 495 (1932).Washington wanted a contingent of guards he could trust. This order is often quoted as "Put none but Americans on guard tonight."

Rewards

A man will walk through hell to get a ribbon for his tunic.

Napoleon Bonaparte

Rewards

No person was ever honored for what he received, but for what he gave.

Author Unknown

Rewards

Real merit of any kind, cannot long be concealed, it will be discovered, and nothing can depreciate it but a man exhibiting it himself. It many not always be rewarded as it ought, but it will always be known.

Earl of Chesterfield

Rich

"I was told," continued Egremont, "that an impassable gulf divided the Rich from the Poor; I was told that the Privileged and the People formed Two Nations, governed by different laws, influenced by different manners, with no thoughts or sympathies in common; with an innate inability of mutual comprehension."

Benjamin Disraeli, Sybil, or The Two Nations, ed. Thom Braun, book 4, chapter 8, p. 299 (1980). First published in 1845.

Rich

I take it that it is best for all to leave each man free to acquire property as fast as he can. Some will get wealthy. I don't believe in a law to prevent a man from getting rich; it would do more harm than good.

Abraham Lincoln, speech at New Haven, Connecticut, March 6, 1860.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P. Basler, vol. 4, p. 24 (1953).

Rich

Poor and content is rich, and rich enough.

William Shakespeare

Othello, III, iii, 172

Rich

The idea we should have of the rich and covetous—they are truly as robbers who, standing in the public highway, despoil the passersby.

St. John Chrysostom

Quoted in Wage Earner, American Catholic Trades Unionists.

Rich

The rich are too indolent, the poor to weak, to bear the insupportable fatigue of thinking.

William Cowper (1731-1800)

Attributed

Rich

The superfluities of the rich are the necessaries of the poor. They who possess superfluities, possess the goods of others.

St. Augustine

Rich

This country cannot afford to be materially rich and spiritually poor.

President John F. Kennedy,

State of the Union address, January 14, 1963.

Public Papers of the Presidents of the

United States: John F Kennedy, 1963, p. 13.

Inscribed on the John F. Kennedy Center

for the Performing Arts, Washington, D.C.

Riches

A miser grows rich by seeming poor; an extravagant man grows poor by seeming rich.

Shenstone

Riches

Ah, if the rich were as rich as the poor fancy riches.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Riches

Banks and riches are chains of gold, but still chains.

Edmund Ruffin

Riches

Few rich men own their own property. The property owns them.

Robert G. Ingersoll

Riches

He is now fast rising from affluence to poverty.

Mark Twain

Riches

He is the rich man who can avail himself of other men's faculties—who knows how to draw a benefit from the labors and experiences of other men.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Riches

He that holds fast the golden mean And lives contentedly between the little and the great; Feels not the wants that pinch the poor; nor the plagues that haunt the rich man's door.

William Cowper

Riches

I can not call riches better than the baggage of virtue. The Roman word is better—impedimenta. For as the baggage is to an army; so is riches to virtue. It can not be spared or left behind; but it hindereth the march. Yea; and the care of it sometimes loseth or disturbeth victory. Of great riches there is no real use; except it be in the distribution; the rest is but conceit.

Sir Francis Bacon

Riches

I cannot call riches by a better name than the "baggage" of virtue; the Roman word is better, "impediment." For as the baggage is to an army, so are riches to virtue. It cannot be spared or left behind, and yet it hindereth the march; yea, and the care of it sometimes loseth or disturbeth the victory.

Francis Bacon

Essays. On Riches.

Riches

I have now reigned above fifty years in victory and peace, beloved by my subjects, dreaded by my enemies, and respected by my allies. Riches and honors, power and pleasure, have waited on my call, nor does any earthly blessing appear to be wanting for my felicity. In this situation, I have diligently numbered the days of pure and genuine happiness which have fallen to my lot: they amount to fourteen. O man, place not thy confidence in this present world!

Abd-el-Raham

Riches

If any man is rich and powerful; he comes under that law of God by which the higher branches must take the burning of the Sun; and shade those that are lower; by which the tall trees must protect the weak plants beneath them.

Henry Ward Beecher

Riches

If Heaven had looked upon riches to be a valuable thing, it would not have given them to such a scoundrel

Jonathan Swift

Riches

If I keep my good character, I shall be rich enough.

Platonicus

Riches

If the pursuit of riches were a commendable pursuit; I would join in it; even if I had to become a chariot-driver for the purpose. But seeing that it is not a commendable pursuit; I engage in those which are more to my taste.

Wisdom of the Chinese

Riches

If your riches are yours, why don't you take them with to t'other world?

Benjamin Franklin

Riches

Ignorance is degrading when found in company with riches.

Arthur Schopenhauer

Riches

In this world it is not what we take up but what we give up that makes us rich.

Henry Ward Beecher

Riches

In truth, prosperity tries the souls even of the wise.

Crispus

Riches

It is better to live rich, than to die rich.

Samuel Johnson

Riches

It is extraordinary how many emotional storms one may weather in safety if one is ballasted with ever so little gold.

William McFee

Riches

It's good to have money and the things that money can buy, but it's good, too, to check up once in a while and make sure you haven't lost the things that money can't buy.

George Horace Latimer

Riches

Many speak the truth when they say that they despise riches, but they mean the riches possessed by other men.

Charles Caleb Colton

Riches

No man takes with him to Hades all his exceeding wealth.

Theognis

Riches

Of great riches there is no real use, except in the distribution; the rest is but conceit.

Francis Bacon

Essays. On Riches.

Riches

Only when man's life comes to end in prosperity can one call that man happy.

Aeschylus

Riches

Riches are not forbidden, but the pride of them is.

St. John Chrysostom

Homilies, c. 388.

Riches

Riches cover a multitude of woes.

Menander

The Boeotian Girl, fragment 90

Riches

Riches do not make one rich but busy.

Fernando de Rojas

Riches

The real values of life are solid and unshakable. A financial crisis can rob us of all that we have; but it cannot affect what we are.

Claiborne Johnson

Riches

The use of riches is better than possession.

Fernando de Rojas

Riches

Without a rich heart wealth is an ugly beggar.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Right

Aggressive fighting for the right is the noblest sport the world affords.

Theodore Roosevelt, saying.

—Gifford Pinchot, "Roosevelt as President" in

State Papers as Governor and President, 1899-1909

(vol. 15 of The Works of Theodore Roosevelt, national ed.),

p. xxxiii (1926). Pinchot commented, "There are few

sayings of his that hold for me so much of him as this."

Right

I had rather be right than be President.

Henry Clay (1777-1852)

Speeches, House of Representatives,

Reply to Senator Preston of South Carolina, 1839

["The gentleman need not worry. He will never be either."

—Speaker Reed. Clay was defeated for the presidency,

1824, 1832, 1844]

Right

I will follow the right side even to the fire, but excluding the fire if I can.

Michel Eyquem de Montaigne

Essays, III, 1

Right

One may go wrong in many different directions, but right only in one.

Aristotle

Right

Still, if you will not fight for the right when you can easily win without bloodshed; if you will not fight when your victory will be sure and not too costly; you may come to the moment when you will have to fight with all the odds against you and only a precarious chance of survival. There may even be a worse case. You may have to fight when there is no hope of victory, because it is better to perish than live as slaves.

Winston Churchill,

The Gathering Storm (vol. 1 of The Second World War),

p. 348 (1948).

On March 31, 1939, Prime Minister Neville

Chamberlain had informed the House of Commons that

Britain would support Poland against any action

threatening its independence. This marked the end

of submission to Germany. Churchill thought the

decision should have been made sooner when it

would have been easier to stop Germany.

Right

To see what is right and not to do it is want of courage.

Confucius,

Analects, book 2, chapter 24, Confucian Analects,

the Great Learning, and the Doctrine of the Mean,

trans. James Legge, p. 154 (1893, reprinted 1971).

Right

Whatever is, is right.

Democritus (460 B.C.?-370 B.C.?)

Quoted in Diogenes Laërtius, "Democritus"

Right and Wrong

Everything has two handles—by one of which it ought to be carried and by the other not.

Epictetus

The Encheiridion, 43

Right and Wrong

I have another objection: and that is, it is unjust that I should suffer such a penalty. Had I interfered in the manner which I admit, and which I admit has been fairly proved— (for I admire the truthfulness and candor of the greater portion of the witnesses who have testified in this case)—had I so interfered in behalf of the rich, the powerful, the intelligent, the so-called great, or in behalf of their children, or any of that class, and suffered and sacrificed what I have in this interference, it would have been all right, and every man in this Court would have deemed it an act worthy of reward rather than punishment.

John Brown

Last speech in court, November 2, 1859,

N. Y. Herald, November 3.

Right and Wrong

I would rather be wrong with Plato than right with such men as these.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

Tusculanae disputationes.

Right and Wrong

It is the greatest good to the greatest number which is the measure of right and wrong.

Jeremy Bentham

Works.

Right and Wrong

Ius est ars boni et aequi.

Legal justice is the art of the good and the fair.

Anonymous Latin Saying

Right and Wrong

Man is born for uprightness. If a man lose his uprightness, and yet live, his escape from death is the effect of mere good fortune.

Confucius

The Confucian Analects, 6:16

Right and Wrong

Nothing is politically right which is morally wrong.

Attributed to Daniel O'Connell.

—Wendell Phillips, speech on the

100th anniversary of O'Connell's birth,

August 6, 1875, Speeches, Lectures, and Letters,

2d series, p. 398 (1891). Unverified.

Right and Wrong

Stand with anybody that stands RIGHT. Stand with him while he is right and PART with him when he goes wrong.

Abraham Lincoln, speech in reply to Senator Stephen Douglas, Peoria, Illinois, October 16, 1854.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P Basler, vol. 2, p. 273 (1953).

"This speech, together with one delivered twelve days before at Springfield, made Lincoln a power in national politics. He had had little to do with politics since the expiration of his term in Congress, but the repeal of the Missouri Compromise aroused him to instant action…. When closely studied the Peoria speech reveals germs of many of the powerful arguments elaborated by Lincoln later in his career."—The Complete Works of Abraham Lincoln, new and enl. ed., ed. John G. Nicolay and John Hay, vol. 2, p. 190, footnote (1905).

Right and Wrong

The greatest right in the world is the right to be wrong. If the Government or majorities think an individual is right, no one will interfere with him; but when agitators talk against the things considered holy, or when radicals criticise, or satirize the political gods, or question the justice of our laws and institutions, or pacifists talk against war, how the old inquisition awakens, and ostracism, the excommunication of the church, the prison, the wheel, the torture-chamber, the mob, are called to suppress the free expression of thought.

Harry Weinberger, "The First Casualties in War," letter to the editor, The Evening Post, New York City, April 10, 1917, p. 11.

Right and Wrong

The Senator from Wisconsin cannot frighten me by exclaiming, "My country, right or wrong." In one sense I say so too. My country; and my country is the great American Republic. My country, right or wrong; if right, to be kept right; and if wrong, to be set right.

Senator Carl Schurz, remarks in the Senate, February 29, 1872, The Congressional Globe, vol. 45, p. 1287. The Globe merely notes " [Manifestations of applause in the galleries]" but according to Schurz's biographer, "The applause in the gallery was deafening." This is "one of Schurz's most frequently quoted replies."—Hans L. Trefousse, Carl Schurz: A Biography, chapter 11, p. 180 (1982).Schurz expanded on this theme in a speech delivered at the Anti-Imperialistic Conference, Chicago, Illinois, October 17, 1899: "I confidently trust that the American people will prove themselves…too wise not to detect the false pride or the dangerous ambitions or the selfish schemes which so often hide themselves under that deceptive cry of mock patriotism: 'Our country, right or wrong!' They will not fail to recognize that our dignity, our free institutions and the peace and welfare of this and coming generations of Americans will be secure only as we cling to the watchword of true patriotism: 'Our country—when right to be kept right; when wrong to be put right.' "—Schurz, "The Policy of Imperialism,' Speeches, Correspondence and Political Papers of Carl Schurz, vol. 6, pp. 119-20 (1913).

Right and Wrong

You may burn my body to ashes, and scatter them to the winds of heaven; you may drag my soul down to the regions of darkness and despair to be tormented forever; but you will never get me to support a measure which I believe to be wrong, although by doing so I may accomplish that which I believe to be right.

Attributed to Abraham Lincoln.—Ida M. Tarbell, The Life of Abraham Lincoln, vol. 1, p. 139 (1900). This book is based on the reminiscences of contemporaries of Lincoln's. General T. H. Henderson of Illinois related this story—told by his father, who had served with Lincoln in the Illinois legislature—which "illustrates his character for integrity and his firmness in maintaining what he regarded as right in his public acts."

This incident is supposed to have occurred during the session of 1836-1837, when efforts were made to move the capital of Illinois to Springfield; a bill to that effect was coupled with another measure that Lincoln did not approve of. "Finally, after midnight . . Mr. Lincoln rose amid the silence and solemnity which prevailed, and, my father said, made one of the most eloquent and powerful speeches to which he had ever listened. He concluded his remarks" with the words above (pp. 138-39).

Rights

"A fair day's wages for a fair day's work": it is as just a demand as governed men ever made of governing. It is the everlasting right of man.

Thomas Carlyle

Past and Present, 1, 1843.

Rights

Almost all that has been done for the good of the people has been done since the right lost the monopoly of power, since the rights of property were discovered to be not unlimited.

Lord Acton (John E. E. Dalberg)

Letter to Mary Gladston, April 24, 1881

Rights

Among the natural rights of the colonists are these: first, a right to life; secondly, to liberty; thirdly to property; together with the right to support and defend them in the best manner they can. Those are evident branches of, rather than deductions from, the duty of self-preservation, commonly called the first law of nature.

Samuel Adams

The Rights of the Colonists, 1772.

Rights

Driven from every corner of the earth, freedom of thought and the right of private judgment in matters of conscience direct their course to this happy country as their last asylum.

Samuel Adams

Speech, Philadelphia, August 1, 1776.

Rights

Every free man has an undoubted right to lay what sentiments he pleases before the public; to forbid this, is to destroy the freedom of the press; but if he publishes what is improper, mischievous, or illegal, he must take the consequences of his own temerity…. thus the will of the individuals is still left free; and abuse only of the free-will is the object of legal punishment. Neither is any restraint hereby laid upon freedom of thought or inquiry; liberty of private sentiment is still left; the disseminating, or making public, of bad sentiments, destructive of the ends of society, is the crime which society corrects.

Sir William Blackstone

Commentaries on the Laws of England, Edition of 1850, Vol. 2, Bk. iv.

Rights

I am the inferior of any man whose rights I trample under foot. Men are not superior by reason of the accidents of race or color. They are superior who have the best heart—the best brain.

Robert G. Ingersoll

Rights

I believe that every right implies a responsibility; every opportunity, an obligation; every possession, a duty.

John D. Rockefeller Jr

Rights

I do not know the method of drawing up an indictment against a whole people. The natural rights of mankind are indeed sacred things, and if any public measure is proved mischievously to affect them, the objection ought to be fatal to that measure, even if no charter at all could be set up against it. Only a sovereign reason, paramount to all forms of legislation and administration, should dictate.

Edmund Burke

Speech on Conciliation with America, March 22, 1775.

Rights

I want you to understand, gentlemen, that I respect the rights of the poorest and weakest of the colored people, oppressed by the slave system, just as much as I do those of the most wealthy and powerful. That is the idea that has moved me, and that alone.

John Brown

Reply to questioning after arrest.

Rights

I will never ask for more rights than those of a French Citizen: nothing is changed in France; there is only one more Republican.

Louis Bonaparte

Quoted by R. Pimienta, Propaganda Bonaparfista en 1848, p. 53.

Rights

Men, their rights and nothing more; women, their rights and nothing less.

Susan B. Anthony

Rights

Reparation for our rights at home, and security against the like future violations.

William Pitt

Rights

Set before us the conduct of our own British ancestors, who defended for us the inherent rights of mankind against foreign and domestic tyrants and usurpers, against arbitrary kings and cruel priests; in short against the gates of earth and hell.

John Adams

Dissertation on the Canon and the Feudal Law, 1765.

Rights

The liberty of the press is indeed essential to the nature of a free state, but this consists in laying no previous restraints upon publications, and not in freedom from censure for criminal matter when published.

Sir William Blackstone

Commentaries on the Laws of England, Edition of 1850, Vol. 2, Bk. iv.

Rights

The man who prefers his country before any other duty shows the same spirit as the man who surrenders every right to the state. They both deny that right is superior to authority.

Lord Acton (John E. E. Dalberg)

Nationality. The Home and Foreign Review, July, 1862.

Reprinted in Essays on Freedom and Power.

Rights

The public good is in nothing more essentially interested, than in the protection of every individual's private rights.

Sir William Blackstone, Commentaries on the Laws of England, 9th ed., book 1, chapter 1, section 3, p. 139 (1783, reprinted 1978).

Rights

The right to discuss freely and openly, by speech, by the pen, by the press, all political questions, and to examine and animadvert upon all political institution, is a right so clear and certain, so interwoven with our other liberties, so necessary, in fact, to their existence, that without it we must fall at once into despotism and anarchy. To say that he who holds unpopular opinions must hold them at the peril of his life, and that, if he expresses them in public, he has only himself to blame if they who disagree with him should rise and put him to death, is to strike at all rights, all liberties, all protection of law, and to justify or extenuate all crimes.

William Cullen Bryant

Editorial on the murder of Rev. E. P. Lovejoy, 1837.

Rights

The rights and interests of the laboring man will be protected and cared for—not by the labor agitators, but by the Christian gentlemen to whom God has given control of the property rights of the country and upon the successful management of which so much depends.

George F. Baer

Letter to W. F. Clark, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., during the great

anthracite strike, 1902. Labor, April 1, 1950.

Rights

The rights of man in society are liberty, equality, security and property.

France (Official and semi-official)

Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man and Citizen (1795, tr. J.H. Stewart), Art. 1.

Rights

We can not for a moment admit that by simply applying an unpopular or obloquious name to men, whether that name be anarchist, or socialist, capitalist or vagabond, republican or democrat, an officer can be justified in depriving men of rights guaranteed by the fundamental law, and can break up their meeting, can club, search and imprison them, not for what they have done, but for what he, in his wisdom, or his prejudice, or his caprice, fears they might do. If this principle were once admitted, there is no limit to its application. While it is sought to apply it to one class today, it could be applied to any other class tomorrow, and a precedent made in one case would be sure to be cited and acted on in another, and a political party, for the time being in power, could prevent its opponents from meeting and put them in jail.

John Peter Altgeld

To the chief of police, Chicago, November 14, 1891;

in Live Questions, 1899.

Rights

What was their offence? They had committed the crime of unanimously declining to go to work at the wages offered to them by their masters. They had said to one another, "Let us come out from the meanness and misery of our caste. Let us begin to do what every order more privileged and more honoured is doing every day. By the means which we believe to be the best let us raise ourselves and our families above the humbleness of our condition. We may be wrong, but we cannot help believing that we might do much if we were true brothers of each other, and would resolve not to sell the only thing which is our own, the cunning of our hands, for less than it is worth". What other things they may have done is nothing to the purpose: it is for this they are to endure the penalty of the law.

William Cullen Bryant

Editorial on the rights of workmen to organize and strike, June 13, 1836.

Rights

Whatever each man can separately do, without trespassing upon others, he has a right to do for himself; and he has a right to a fair portion of all which society, with all its combination of skill and force, can do in his favor. In this partnership all men have equal rights; but not to equal things.

Edmund Burke

Reflections on the Revolution in France, 1790.

Rights

When people talk of the freedom of writing, speaking or thinking I cannot choose but laugh. No such thing ever existed. No such thing now exists; but I hope it will exist. But it must be hundreds of years after you and I shall write and speak no more.

John Adams

To Jefferson, July 15, 1818.

Rights

Wherever there is a human being, I see God-given rights inherent in the being, whatever may be the sex or the complexion.

William Lloyd Garrison

Rights

Will you, Sir, or will you not, concur in putting matters on such a footing, in respect to the liberty of the press, and the liberty of public discussion, that at the hands of persons exercising the power of government, a man shall have no more fear from speaking and writing against them, than from speaking and writing for them? If his answer be yes, the government he declares in favor of, is an undespotic one; if his answer be no, the government he declares in favor of , is a despotic one.

Jeremy Bentham

On Liberty of the Press and Public, 1821.

Rights

[On completely popular government:] Its superiority in reference to present well being rests upon two principles, of as universal truth and applicability as any general propositions which can be laid down respecting human affairs. The first is, that the rights and interests of every or any person are only secure from being disregarded, when the person interested is himself able, and habitually disposed, to stand up for them. The second is, that the general prosperity attains a greater height, and is more widely diffused, in proportion to the amount and variety of the personal energies enlisted in promoting it.

John Stuart Mill, Considerations on Representative Government, chapter 3, p. 55 (1861).

Risk

Having nothing, nothing can he lose.

William Shakespeare

King Henry VI, III, III, iii, 152

Rome

After a diligent inquiry, I can discern four principal causes for the ruin of Rome, which continued to operate in a period of more than a thousand years. I. The injuries of time and nature. II. The hostile attacks of the barbarians and Christians. III. The use and abuse of the materials. And IV. The domestic quarrels of the Romans.

Edward Gibbon (1737-1794)

The Decline And Fall Of The Roman Empire (1776-1788)

Rome

A great civilization is not conquered from without until it has destroyed itself within. The essential causes of Rome's decline lay in her people, her morals, her class struggle, her failing trade, her bureaucratic despotism, her stifling taxes, her consuming wars.

Will Durant, Caesar and Christ, Epilogue, p. 665 (1944).

Rome

As the happiness of a future life is the great object of religion, we may hear without surprise or scandal that the introduction, or at least the abuse, of Christianity had some influence on the decline and fall of the Roman empire. The clergy successfully preached the doctrines of patience and pusillanimity; the active virtues of society were discouraged; and the last remains of military spirit were buried in the cloister. A large portion of public and private wealth was consecrated to the specious demands of charity and devotion, and the soldiers' pay was lavished on the useless multitudes of both sexes who could only plead the merits of abstinence and chastity. Faith, zeal, curiosity, and more earthly passions of malice and ambition kindled the flame of theological factions, whose conflicts were sometimes bloody and always implacable; the attention of the emperors was diverted from camps to synods; the Roman world was oppressed by a new species of tyranny, and persecuted sects became the secret enemies of the country.

Edward Gibbon (1737-1794)

The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire (1776-1788)

Rome

I found Rome a city of bricks and left it a city of marble.

Augustus Caesar

From Suetonius, Augustus, 28

Rome

In Rome you long for the country; in the country—oh inconstant!—you praise the didstant city to the stars.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Satires, II, vii, 28

Rome

It was scarcely possible that the eyes of contemporaries should discover in the public felicity the latent causes of decay and corruption. This long peace, and the uniform government of the Romans, introduced a slow and secret poison into the vitals of the empire. The minds of men were gradually reduced to the same level, the fire of genius was extinguished, and even the military spirit evaporated. The natives of Europe were brave and robust. Spain, Gaul, Britain, and Illyricum, supplied the legions with excellent soldiers, and constituted the real strength of the monarchy. Their personal valour remained, but they no longer possessed that public courage which is nourished by the love of independence, the sense of national honour, the presence of danger, and the habit of command. They received laws and governors from the will of their sovereign, and trusted for their defence to a mercenary army. The posterity of their boldest leaders was contented with the rank of citizens and subjects. The most aspiring spirits resorted to the court or standard of the emperors; and the deserted provinces, deprived of political strength or union, insensibly sunk into the languid indifference of private life.

Edward Gibbon, History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire, chapter 2, third paragraph from the end, p. 32 (1838).

Rome

Others, I take it, will work better with breathing bronze and draw living faces from marble; others will plead at law with greater eloquence, or measure the pathways of the sky, or forecast the rising stars. Be it your concern, Roman, to rule the nations under law (this is your proper skill) and establish the way of peace; to spare the conquered and put down the mighty from their seat.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aeneid, VI, 847

Rome

So vast was the struggle to found the Roman state.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aeneid, I, 33

Rome

The teacher reminded us that Rome's liberties were not auctioned off in a day, but were bought slowly, gradually, furtively, little by little; first with a little corn and oil for the exceedingly poor and wretched, later with corn and oil for voters who were not quite so poor, later still with corn and oil for pretty much every man that had a vote to sell—exactly our own history over again.

Mark Twain (Samuel L. Clemens), "Purchasing Civic Virtue," Mark Twain in Eruption, ed. Bernard De Voto, pp. 68-69 (1940).

Rome

The various modes of worship which prevailed in the Roman world were all considered by the people as equally true; by the philosopher as equally false; and by the magistrate as equally useful.

Edward Gibbon (1737-1794)

The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire (1776-1788)

Rome

Urbi et orbi.

To the city [Rome] and to the world.

Anonymous Latin

Apostolic Blessing

Rome

When Caesar subdued the Gauls, that great nation was already divided into three orders of men: the clergy, the nobility, and the common people. The first governed by superstition, the second by arms, but the third and last was not of any weight or account in their public councils.

Edward Gibbon (1737-1794)

The Decline And Fall Of The Roman Empire (1776-1788)

Roses

A rose is sweeter in the bud than full-blown.

John Lyly

Euphues And His England, P. 314

Rules

All Temporal or human authority proceeds directly from spiritual or divine authority. But authority is the negation of liberty. God, or rather the fiction of God, is thus the sanction and the intellectual and moral cause of all the slavery on earth, and the liberty of men will not be complete, unless it will have completely annihilated the inauspicious fiction of a heavenly master.

Mikhail A. Bakunin

Oeuvres, Vol. I, p. 283; quoted by Adler, p. 374.

Rules

Do you not know, my son, with what little understanding the world is ruled?

Julius III

To a Portuguese monk who sympathized with the Pope's burdens

of office

Rules

He ruleth all the roost.

John Skelton

Why Come Ye Not to Court, 198

Rules

Here's the rule for bargains: "Do other men, for they would do you." That's the true business precept.

Charles Dickens (1812-1870)

Martin Chuzzlewit (1843-44), Jonas Chuzzlewit, Ch. II

Rules

I think the test of obscenity is this: whether the tendency of the matter charged as obscenity is to deprave and corrupt those whose minds are open to such immoral influences, and into whose hands a publication of this sort may fall.

Sir Alexander Cockburn (1802-1880)

Regina v. Hicklin (1868), 3 Q.B. 360, 371; known as the Hicklin Rule

Rules

No man has any right to rule who is not better than the people over whom he rules.

Cyrus (c. 529 B.C.), founder of Persian Empire

Attributed by Plutarch, Moralis: Sayings of Kings

Rules

No man ruleth safely but he that is willingly ruled.

Thomas A. Kempis

Imitation of Christ, I, 20

Rules

No rule is so general, which admits not some exception.

Robert Burton

Anatomy of Melancholy, I, 2, 2, 3

Rules

Rarely use venery but for health or offspring, never to dullness, weakness, or the injury of your own or another's peace or reputation.

Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790)

Rules for his own conduct (c. 1730)

Rules

Rule will show the man.

The Seven Sages

Bias. From Aristotle, Nichomachean Ethics V, 1

Rules

Rules are mostly made to be broken and are too often for the lazy to hide behind.

Douglas Macarthur.—William A. Ganoe, MacArthur CloseUp, p. 137 (1962).

Rules

Tsze-kung asked, saying, "Is there one word which may serve as a rule of practice for all one's life?" The Master said, "Is not Reciprocity such a word? What you do not want done to yourself, do not do to others."

Confucius (551-479 B.C.)

Confucian Analects (tr. James Legge), Bk. XV, 23

Rules

What is this day supported by precedents will hereafter become a precedent.

Caius Cornelius Tacitus

Annals, XI, 24

Rumor

Rumor is a pipe

Blown by surmises, jealousies, conjectures,

And of so easy and so plain a stop

That the blunt monster with uncounted heads,

The still-discordant wavering multitude,

Can play upon it.

William Shakespeare

King Henry IV, II, Induction, 15

Running

He can run. But he can't hide.

Joe Louis, remark to a reporter prior to the Joe Louis—Billy Conn boxing match, June 19, 1946.—Louis, My Life Story, p. 176 (1947).

Running

I took to my heels as fast as I could.

Terence [Publius Terentius Afer]

Eunuchus, 844

Running

Now, here you see, it takes all the running you can do, to keep in the same place. If you want to get somewhere else, you must run at least twice as fast as that!

Lewis Carroll (Charles L. Dodgson), Through the Looking-Glass, chapter 2.—Logical Nonsense: The Works of Lewis Carroll, ed. Philip C. Blackburn and Lionel White, p. 177 (1934). First published in 1872.

Russia

I cannot forecast to you the action of Russia. It is a riddle wrapped in a mystery inside an enigma; but perhaps there is a key. That key is Russian national interest.

Winston Churchill, first lord of the admiralty, radio broadcast, London, October 1, 1939.—Winston S. Churchill: His Complete Speeches, 1897-1963, ed. Robert Rhodes James, vol. 6, p. 6161 (1974).

Russia

I got very well acquainted with Joe Stalin, and I like old Joe! He is a decent fellow. But Joe is a prisoner of the Politburo.

President Harry S. Truman, informal remarks, Eugene, Oregon, June 11, 1948.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Harry S. Truman, 1948, p. 329.Truman refers to his meeting with Stalin at the Potsdam conference in July 1945.

Russia

If I had to choose between life in the Soviet Union and life in the U.S.A., I would certainly choose the Soviet Union.

Attributed to Graham Greene.—Parade magazine, October 29, 1967, p. 2. Unverified.

Russia

In a Russian tragedy, everybody dies. In a Russian comedy, everybody dies, too. But they die happy.

Barry Farber, radio talk-show host in New York City, during a program on radio station WMCA.

Russia

It would appear that the natural frontier of Russia runs from Dantzic or perhaps Stettin to Trieste.

Friedrich Engels, "The Real Issue in Turkey' Karl Marx and Engels, Collected Works, vol. 12, p. 16 (1979).This article was originally published in The New York Daily Tribune, April 12, 1853, p. 4, and since that paper's European correspondent was at that time Karl Marx, it has generally been assumed the author was Marx. Collected Works, vol. 12, p. 639, note 17, makes it clear that Engels was the author.

The same geographic area figures in No. 234.

Russia

Judged by every standard which history has applied to Governments, the Soviet Government of Russia is one of the worst tyrannies that has ever existed in the world. It accords no political rights. It rules by terror. It punishes political opinions. It suppresses free speech. It tolerates no newspapers but its own. It persecutes Christianity with a zeal and a cunning never equalled since the times of the Roman Emperors. It is engaged at this moment in trampling down the peoples of Georgia and executing their leaders by hundreds.

Winston Churchill, chancellor of the exchequer, speech to the Scottish Unionist Association, Edinburgh, Scotland, September 25, 1924.—Winston S. Churchill: His Complete Speeches, 1897-1963, ed. Robert Rhodes James, vol. 4, p. 3472 (1974).

Russia

My letter to Castro concluded an episode of world history in which, bringing the world to the brink of atomic war, we won a Socialist Cuba. It's very consoling for me personally to know that our side acted correctly and that we did a great revolutionary deed by not letting American imperialism intimidate us. The Caribbean crisis was a triumph of Soviet foreign policy and a personal triumph in my own career as a statesman and as a member of the collective leadership. We achieved, I would say, a spectacular success without having to fire a single shot!

Nikita S. Khrushchev, Khrushchev Remembers, trans. Strobe Talbott, p. 504 (1971).

Sacrifice

I sacrifice to no god save myself—

And to my belly, greatest of deities.

Euripides (485-406 B.C.)

The Cyclops (424-23 B.C.)

Sacrifice

Let us sacrifice to the Muses.

Solon

Ib.

Sacrifice

Pro bono publico.

For the public good.

Anonymous Latin saying

Sacrifice

Too long a sacrifice

Can make a stone of the heart.

O when may it suffice?

William Butler Yeats, "Easter 1916," lines 57-59, The Variorum Edition of the Poems of W B. Yeats, ed. Peter Allt and Russell K. Alspach, p. 394 (1957).

Sadness

Sadness needs its own time to be.

Karen Berry

Safety

Salus populi suprema lex.

The people's safety is the highest law.

Anonymous Latin

Legal and political maxim

Saints

Saint: A dead sinner revised and edited.

Ambrose Bierce

Saints

Saintship is the exclusive possession of those who have either worn out or never had the capacity to sin.

Elbert Hubbard

Saints

That the saints may enjoy their beatitude and the grace of God more abundantly, they are permitted to see the punishment of the damned in hell.

Saint Thomas Aquinas

Saints

The saints are the sinners who keep on going.

Robert Louis Stevenson

Santa Claus

We take pleasure in answering at once and thus prominently the communication below, expressing at the same time our great gratification that its faithful author is numbered among the friends of The Sun:

"Dear Editor: I am 8 years old.

"Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus.

"Papa says 'If you see it in The Sun it's so.'

"Please tell me the truth; is there a Santa Claus?

"Virginia O'Hanlon.

"115 West Ninety-fifth Street."

Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's are little. In this great universe of ours man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus. It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies! You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You may tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart. Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

No Santa Claus! Thank God! he lives, and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay, ten times ten thousand years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.

Francis P. Church, "Is There a Santa Claus," editorial, The Sun, New York City, September 21, 1897, p. 6.After Church's death on April 11, 1906, The Sun broke its policy of editorial anonymity to announce that he had written this editorial.

Satan

Mammon is the largest slave-holder in the world.

F. Saunders

Satisfaction

He is a wise man who does not grieve for the things which he has not, but rejoices for those which he has.

Epictetus

Scholar

The world's great men have not commonly been great scholars, nor its great scholars great men.

Oliver Wendell Holmes

Schools

Schoolhouses are the republican line of fortifications.

Horace Mann

Science

A little science estranges a man from God. A lot of science brings him back.

Sir Francis Bacon

Science

A modern poet has characterized the personality of art and the impersonality of science as follows: Art is I: Science is WE.

Claude Bernard

Science

A new scientific truth does not triumph by convincing its opponents and making them see the light, but rather because its opponents eventually die, and a new generation grows up that is familiar with it.

Max Planck, Scientific Autobiography and Other Papers, trans. Frank Gaynor, pp. 33-34 (1950).

Science

All the biblical miracles will at last disappear with the progress of science.

Matthew Arnold

Science

…of all the sciences known as yet, Arithmetic and Geometry alone are free from any taint of falsity or uncertainty.

René Descartes (1596-1650)

Rules for the Direction of the Mind (1628-29)

Science

For every false word or unrighteous deed, for cruelty and oppression, for lust or vanity, the price has to be paid at last, not always by the chief offenders, but paid by some one.

James A. Froude (1818-1894)

Lecture, London, February 5, 1864 also, "The Science of History" (1864)

Science

I have hardly ever known a mathamatician who was capable of reasoning.

Plato

The Republic, VII, 531-E

Science

If I have been able to see farther than others, it was because I stood on the shoulders of giants.

Sir Isaac Newton

Science

In the material sciences these are and have been, and are most surely likely to continue to be heroic days.

J. Robert Oppenheimer

Science

It is not enough that you should understand about applied science in order that your work may increase man's blessings. Concern for the man himself and his fate must always form the chief interest of all technical endeavors; concern for the great unsolved problems of the organization of labor and the distribution of goods in order that the creations of our mind shall be a blessing and not a curse to mankind. Never forget this in the midst of your diagrams and equations.

Albert Einstein, speech at the California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California, February 16, 1931, as reported in The New York Times, February 17, 1931, p. 6.

Science

It is they (men of science) who hold the secret of the mysterious property of the mind by which error ministers to truth, and truth slowly but irrevocably prevails. Theirs is the logic of discovery, the demonstration of the advance of knowledge and the development of ideas, which, as the earthly wants and the passions of men remain almost unchanged, are the charter of progress, and the vital spark in history.

Lord Acton (John E. E. Dalberg)

Inaugural lecture on the Study of History. Cambridge, June 11, 1895.

Science

Material objects are of two kinds, atoms and compounds of atoms. The atoms themselves cannot be swamped by any force, for they are preserved indefinitely by their absolute solidity.

Lucretius [Titus Lucretius Carus]

De Rerum Natura, I, 518

Science

Modern civilization depends on science . . James Smithson was well aware that knowledge should not be viewed as existing in isolated parts, but as a whole, each portion of which throws light on all the other, and that the tendency of all is to improve the human mind, and give it new sources of power and enjoyment…narrow minds think nothing of importance but their own favorite pursuit, but liberal views exclude no branch of science or literature, for they all contribute to sweeten, to adorn, and to embellish life…science is the pursuit above all which impresses us with the capacity of man for intellectual and moral progress and awakens the human intellect to aspiration for a higher condition of humanity.

Joseph Henry, first secretary of the Smithsonian Institution. Inscription on the National Museum of American History, Washington, D.C.

Science

Nine-tenths of modern science is in this respect the same: it is the produce of men whom their contemporaries thought dreamers—who were laughed at for caring for what did not concern them—who, as the proverb went, "walked into a well from looking at the stars"—who were believed to be useless, if anyone could be such.

George F. Baer

The English Constitution.

Science

Observation is a passive science, experimentation an active science.

Claude Bernard

Science

Posterity will give a man a fair hearing; his own times will not do so if he is attacking vested interests, and I have attacked two powerful sets of vested interests at once—the Church and Science.

Samuel Butler

Note-Books.

Science

Science commits suicide when it adopts a creed.

Thomas Henry Huxley

Science

Science does not know its debt to imagination. Goethe did not believe that a great naturalist could exist without this faculty.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Science

Science without religion is lame, religion without science is blind.

Albert Einstein, paper prepared for initial meeting of the Conference on Science, Philosophy and Religion in Their Relation to the Democratic Way of Life, New York City, September 9-11, 1940.—Einstein, Out of My Later Years, chapter 8, part 1, p. 26 (1950, rev. and reprinted 1970).

Science

The time has come when scientific truth must cease to be the property of the few—when it must be woven into the common life of the world.

(Jean) Louis (Rodolphe) Agassiz

Science

The whole of science is nothing more than a refinement of every day thinking.

Albert Einstein

Science

True science teaches us to doubt and to abstain from ignorance.

Claude Bernard

Science

We have to live today by what truth we can get today and be ready tomorrow to call it falsehood.

William James

Science

Weed—a plant whose virtues have not yet been discovered.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Science

What is a scientist?….We give the name scientist to the type of man who has felt experiment to be a means guiding him to search out the deep truth of life, to lift a veil from its fascinating secrets, and who, in this pursuit, has felt arising within him a love for the mysteries of nature, so passionate as to annihilate the thought of himself.

Maria Montessori, The Montessori Method, trans. Anne E. George, p. 8 (1964).

Science

[To Ptolemy I] There is no royal road to geometry.

Euclid

From Proclus, Commentary on Euclid, Prologue

Scriptures

Reading the scriptures is an uplifting experience.

Author Unknown

Sea

As they say on my own Cape Cod, a rising tide lifts all the boats. And a partnership, by definition, serves both partners, without domination or unfair advantage. Together we have been partners in adversity—let us also be partners in prosperity.

President John F. Kennedy, address in the Assembly Hall at the Paulskirche, Frankfurt, West Germany, June 25, 1963.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: John F Kennedy, 1963, p. 519.Kennedy used the "rising tide" image a number of times.

Sea

I have seen the sea lashed into fury and tossed into spray, and its grandeur moves the soul of the dullest man; but I remember that it is not the billows, but the calm level of the sea from which all heights and depths are measured.

Representative James A. Garfield, speech nominating John Sherman for president.—Proceedings of the Republican National Convention, Chicago, Illinois, June 2-8, 1880, p. 184 (1881). Garfield himself was ultimately nominated at this convention.

Sea

Praise the sea; on shore remain.

John Florio

Second Frutes

Sea

The sea! The sea!

Xenophon

Anabasis IV, 7, 24

Secrecy

"The secret things belong unto the Lord our God; but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law." "There is none like unto the God of Jeshurun, who rideth upon the heaven in thy help and in his excellency on the sky. The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms; and he shall thrust out the enemy from before thee; and shall say, destroy them."

Moses

Deuteronomy xxxiii

Secrecy

Everything secret degenerates, even the administration of justice; nothing is safe that does not show how it can bear discussion and publicity.

Attributed to Lord Acton. Unverified.

Secrecy

I believe that the public temper is such that the voters of the land are prepared to support the party which gives the best promise of administering the government in the honest, simple, and plain manner which is consistent with its character and purposes. They have learned that mystery and concealment in the management of their affairs cover tricks and betrayal. The statesmanship they require consists in honesty and frugality, a prompt response to the needs of the people as they arise, and a vigilant protection of all their varied interests.

Grover Cleveland, letter accepting nomination as the Democratic candidate for president, August 8, 1884.—The Writings and Speeches of Grover Cleveland, p. 13 (1892).

Secrecy

I request that they may be considered in confidence, until the members of Congress are fully possessed of their contents, and shall have had opportunity to deliberate on the consequences of their publication; after which time, I submit them to your wisdom.

President John Adams, message to both houses of Congress transmitting dispatches from France, April 3, 1798.—The Works of John Adams, ed. Charles Francis Adams, vol. 9, p. 158 (1854).

Secrecy

Red with uncommon wrath, to blast the man who owes his greatness to his country's ruin?

Joseph Addison

Cato.

Secrecy

The face is the mirror of the mind, and eyes without speaking confess the secrets of the heart.

St. Jerome

Letter, 54

Secrecy

When a secret is revealed, it is the fault of the man who has intrusted it.

Jean de la Bruyere

Secrets

If you can't get people to listen to any other way, tell them it's confidential.

Farmer's Digest

Secrets

The knowledge that a secret exists is half of the secret.

Joshua Meyrowitz

Security

…he alone is great and happy who requires neither to command nor to obey in order to secure his being of some importance in the world.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832)

Götz Von Berlichingen (1773)

Security

If all that Americans want is security, they can go to prison. They'll have enough to eat, a bed and a roof over their heads. But if an American wants to preserve his dignity and his equality as a human being, he must not bow his neck to any dictatorial government.

Dwight D. Eisenhower, president of Columbia University, speech to luncheon clubs, Galveston, Texas, December 8, 1949.—The New York Times, December 9, 1949, p. 23.

Security

It is much more secure to be feared than to be loved.

Niccolo Machiavelli

Security

The fly that doesn't want to be swatted is most secure when it lights on the fly swatter.

G. C. Lichtenberg

Security

There is no security on this earth; there is only opportunity.

Attributed to Douglas Macarthur.—James B. Simpson, Contemporary Quotations, p. 316 (1964). Unverified.

Self

He who comes first, eats first.

Eike Von Repkow

Sachsenspiegel

Self

He who commands the sea has command of everything.

Themistocles

From Cicero, Ad Atticum X, 8

Self

If I am not for myself, who will be for me? And if I am only for myself, what am I? And if not now—when?

Aboth 1:14, saying of Hillel.

Pirkay Avot, often known in English as the

"Chapters of the Fathers," is the best known of the

books of the Mishnah, first part of the Talmud.

Translations vary; that above is from Leo Rosten's

Treasury of Jewish Quotations, p. 459 (1972).

Self

Self-preservation is the first law of nature.

Samuel Butler

Remains.

Self

We must have richness of soul.

Antiphanes

Greek Comic Fragments, 570

Self

What we do belongs to what we are; and what we are is what becomes of us.

Henry Van Dyke, Ships and Havens, chapter 2, p. 10 (1898).

Self

Who is it that says most? which can say more

Than this rich praise—that you alone are you?

William Shakespeare

Sonnet 84, 1

Self-Blame

No mud can soil us but the mud we throw.

James Russell Lowell

Self-Control

Conquer thyself. Till thou hast done that; thou art a slave; for it is almost as well to be in subjection to another's appetite as thine own.

Burton

Self-Control

Govern thyself then you will be able to govern the world.

Author Unknown

Self-Control

How shall I be able to rule over others, that have not full power and command of myself?

Francois Rabelais

Self-Control

If one conquer a thousand men in battle, and if one conquer himself alone, he is in a battle supreme.

Suttapitaka

Self-Control

Know yourself, master yourself, conquest of self is most gratifying.

Author Unknown

Self-Control

Let your needs rule you—pamper them and you will see them multiply like insects in the sun. The more you give them the more they demand.

Wagner

Self-Control

No man is free who is not master of himself.

Epictetus

Self-Control

Self denial is not negative repression but the cost of positive achievement.

Harry Emerson Fosdick

Self-Control

Self mastery comes through denial of the little things.

Author Unknown

Self-Control

Temperance and labor are the two best virtues. Labor whets the appetite, temperance curbs it.

Author Unknown

Self-Control

The first and best thing is to conquer self; to be conquered by self is of all things most shameful and vile.

Plato

Self-Control

The lives of men who have been always growing are strewed along their whole course with the things they have learned to do without.

Phillips Brooks

Self-Control

The only conquests that are permanent and leave no regrets are our conquests over ourselves.

Napoleon Bonaparte

Self-Denial

Pure self-denial is our good angel's hand bearing the gates of sin.

Abbe Mullois

Self-Discovery

I your looking glass will be and will modestly discover to you qualities which you yourself know not of.

William Shakespeare

Self-Esteem

He who does not think too much of himself is much more esteemed than he imagines.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Self-Esteem

I like myself, but I won't say I'm as handsome as the bull that kidnapped Europa.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

De Natura Deorum, I, 78

Self-Esteem

No one knows what he can do till he tries.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 786

Self-Esteem

Ofttimes nothing profits more

Than self-esteem, grounded on just and right

Well manag'd.

John Milton

Paradise Lost, VIII, 571

Self-Fulfillment

The way we imagine ourselves to appear to another person is an essential element in our conception of ourselves. In other words, I am not what I think I am, and I am not what you think I am. I am what I think you think I am.

Robert Bierstedt

Self-Fulfillment

Treat people as if they were what they ought to be and you help them to become what they are capable of being.

Goethe

Self-Improvement

Welcome the task that makes you go beyond yourself.

Frank McGhie

Self-Mastery

I see and approve better things, but follow worse.

Ovid [Publius Ovidius Naso]

Metamorphoses, VII, 20

Self-Mastery

It is when I struggle to be brief that I become obscure.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Epistles, III, 25

Self-Mastery

No man is fit to command another that cannot command himself.

William Penn

No Cross, No Crown

Self-Pity

Self-pity is easily the most destructive of the non-pharmaceutical narcotics; it is addictive, gives momentary pleasure and separates the victim from reality.

John W. Gardner

Self-Potential

What we do upon some great occasion will probably depend on what we already are; and what we will be the result of self-discipline.

H. P. Liddon

Self-Reliance

The truest help we can render an afflicted man is not to take his burden from him, but to call out his best energy, that he may be able to bear the burden.

Phillips Brooks

Self-Respect

A person is his own worst enemy.

Author Unknown

Self-Respect

Be it ever so humble, there's no opinion like one's own.

Author Unknown

Self-Respect

Doubt whom you will, but never yourself.

Christian Bavell

Self-Respect

For in becoming all things to all people, one eventually becomes nothing to everybody, including, and particularly to oneself.

Stephen R. Covey

Self-Respect

He that feels in love with himself will have no rivals.

Benjamin Franklin

Self-Respect

I desire so to conduct the affairs of this Administration that if at the end, when I come to lay down the reins of power, I have lost every other friend on earth, I shall have at least one friend left, and that friend shall be down inside of me.

Abraham Lincoln

Self-Respect

If we do not find repose in ourselves, it is vain to seek it elsewhere.

French Proverb

Self-Respect

It is difficult to make a man miserable while he feels he is worthy of himself and claims kindred to the great God who made him.

Abraham Lincoln

Self-Respect

No man can do anything well who does not esteem his work to be important.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Self-Respect

No man is hurt by himself.

Diogenes

Self-Respect

No one can make you feel inferior without your consent.

Eleanor Roosevelt

Self-Respect

Resolve to know thyself and know he that finds himself loses his misery.

Author Unknown

Self-Respect

Self inspection is the best cure for self esteem.

William Wordsworth

Self-Respect

So much is a man worth as he esteems himself.

Francois Rabelais

Self-Respect

The superior man will not manifest either narrow-mindedness or the want of self-respect.

Mencius

Self-Respect

Those who fear the present are apt to fumble the future.

Author Unknown

Self-Respect

We do ourselves wrong, and too meanly estimate the holiness about us, when we deem that any act or enjoyment good in itself, is not good to do religiously.

Nathaniel Hawthorne

Self-Respect

What other dungeon is so dark as one's own heart!

Nathaniel Hawthorne

Self-Respect

What the superior man seeks is in himself. What the mean man seeks is in others.

Confucius

Self-Respect

You can never have real success 'til you meet the real person—YOU.

Author Unknown

Self-Satisfaction

Of the five vices, the vice of the mind is the worst, what is the vice of the mind? The vice of the mind is self satisfaction.

Chuang Tse

Self-Sufficiency

It is better for the development of character and contentment to do certain things badly for yourself than to have them done better for you be someone else.

Author Unknown

Self-Worth

A GODDESS IN EMBRYO

Yesterday, I was a child,

Who grew with the years.

Tomorrow, I will be a woman,

Who will love and shed tears.

My youth is in the past,

My womanhood near—

But, Lord I pray,

What am I today?

As I look in the mirror,

I see myself

Changing and growing

In a special timeless way.

I am beginning

to reach my goal,

But, yet, I feel

I am not quite there today.

I need thee Lord,

With every breath I take;

Please help me know who I am—

For my eternal sake.

I hear thee Lord—

The answer now I know.

I am but

A Goddess in Embryo.

Mary E. McGee

Self-Worth

My business is not to remake myself, but to make the absolute best of what God made.

Robert Browning

Self-Blame

I never complained of the vicissitudes of fortune, nor suffered my face to be overcast at the revolution of the heavens, except once, when my feet were bare, and I had not the means of obtaining shoes. I came to the chief of Kufah in a state of much dejection, and saw there a man who had no feet. I returned thanks to God and acknowledged his mercies, and endured my want of shoes with patience, and exclaimed,

"Roast fowl to him that's sated will seem less

Upon the board than leaves of garden cress.

While, in the sight of helpless poverty,

Boiled turnip will a roasted pullet be."

Sadi, The Gulistan, or Rose Garden,

trans. Edward B. Eastwick, chapter 3, story 19, p. 129 (1880).

A modern version, often cited as an old Arabian proverb, is:

"I thought I was abused because I had no shoes until I met a man who had no feet."

—J. M. Braude, Speaker's Encyclopedia of Stories,

Quotations and Anecdotes, p. 338, no. 2320 (1955).

Self-Deception

Covetous of others' possessions, he [Catiline] was prodigal of his own.

Sallust [Gaius Sallustius Crispus]

The War with Catiline, 5

Self-Deception

Let me have my own way exactly in everything, and a sunnier and pleasanter creature does not exist.

Thomas Carlyle

Self-Deception

Life is the art of being well deceived.

William Hazlitt

Self-Deception

Nothing is easier than self-deceit. For what each man wishes, that he also believes to be true.

Demosthenes, Third Olynthiac, paragraph 19, Olynthiacs, Phillippics, Minor Public Speeches…, trans. J. H. Vince, p. 53 (1954).

Self-Deception

Nothing is more unpleasant than a virtuous person with a mean mind.

Walter Bagehot

Self-Deception

The same people who can deny others everything are famous for refusing themselves nothing.

Leigh Hunt

Self-Examination

How queer everything is today! And yesterday things went on just as usual. I wonder if I've been changed in the night? Let me think: was I the same when I got up this morning? I almost think I can remember feeling a little different. But if I'm not the same, the next question is, "Who in the world am I?" Ah, that's the great puzzle!

Lewis Carroll (Charles L. Dodgson), Alice in Wonderland, chapter 2.—Logical

Nonsense: The Works of Lewis Carroll, ed. Philip C. Blackburn and Lionel White, p. 177 (1934). First published in 1865.

Self-Examination

I have sometimes asked myself whether my country is the better for my having lived at all? I do not know that it is. I have been the instrument of doing the following things; but they would have been done by others; some of them, perhaps, a little better.

Thomas Jefferson, "Services of Jefferson" (1800?), The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Paul L. Ford, vol. 7, p. 475 (1896).

Self-Examination

There is no greater delight than to be conscious of sincerity on self-examination.

Mencius

Book VII, 1:4.2

Self-Importance

Self-interest speaks all sorts of tongues, and plays all sorts of roles, even that of disinterestedness.

Francois, Duc de la Rochefoucauld

Reflections; Or, Sentences And Moral Maxims, 39

Self-Importance

I now know all the people worth knowing in America, and I find no intellect comparable to my own.

Margaret Fuller.

—Memoirs of Margaret Fuller Ossoli,

by Ralph Waldo Emerson, William Henry Channing,

and James Freeman Clarke, vol. 1, part 4

(written by Emerson), p. 234 (1884, reprinted 1972).

Perry Miller, "I Find No Intellect

Comparable to My Own," American Heritage,

February 1957, p. 22, says she made the

remark at Emerson's table and adds,

"she was speaking the truth."

Self-Importance

Self-interest is but the survival of the animal in us. Humanity only begins for man with self-surrender.

Henri Frederic Amiel

Journal.

Self-Importance

The compulsion to take ourselves seriously is in inverse proportion to our creative capacity. When the creative flow dries up, all we have left is our importance.

Eric Hoffer, "Thoughts of Eric Hoffer, Including: 'Absolute Faith Corrupts Absolutely" The New York Times Magazine, April 25, 1971, p. 52.

Self-Mastery

Cursed is he that does not know when to shut his mind. An open mind is all very well in its way, but it ought not to be so open that there is no keeping anything in or out of it. It should be capable of shutting its doors sometimes, or may be found a little draughty.

Samuel Butler

Note-Books.

Self-Mastery

The folly of that impossible precept, "Know Thyself"; till it be translated into this partially possible one, "Know what thou canst work at."

Thomas Carlyle

Sartor Resartus, III.

Self-Respect

An d so the reliance on Property, including the reliance on governments which protect it, is the want of self-reliance. Men have looked away from themselves and at things so long that they have come to esteem the religious, learned and civil institutions as guards of property, and they deprecate assaults on these, because they feel them to be assaults on property. They measure their esteem of each other by what each has, and not by what each is. But a cultivated man becomes ashamed of his property…

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Essays: First Series (1841), "Self-Reliance"

Self-Respect

He that respects himself is safe from others; he wears a coat of mail that none can pierce.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Self-Respect

It is my ambition and desire to so administer the affairs of the government while I remain President that if at the end I have lost every other friend on earth I shall at least have one friend remaining and that one shall be down inside me.

Attributed to President Abraham Lincoln by Enos Clarke, one of the seventy-member delegation of Radicals from Missouri, who met with Lincoln, September 30, 1863. This attribution was made by Clarke in an interview with Walter B. Stevens, who later published it in his Lincoln and Missouri, p. 100 (1916).All contemporary accounts indicate there were no reporters at this meeting. Lincoln's secretary, John Hay, took notes, but this statement is not in his notebooks. For that day's notes, see John G. Nicolay and John Hay, Abraham Lincoln, A History, vol. 8, pp. 215-20 (1890).

Selfishness

ARE YOU WILLING?

Are you willing to forget what you have done for other people, and to remember what other people have done for you; to ignore what the world owes you, and to think what you owe the world; to own that probably the only good reason for your existence is not what you are going to get out of life, but what you are going to give to life; to close your book of complaints against the management of the universe, and to look around you for a place where you can sow a few seeds of happiness—are you willing to do these things even for a day?

Henry Van Dyke

Selfishness

It is to the credit of human nature, that, except where its selfishness is brought into play, it loves more readily than it hates.

Nathaniel Hawthorne

Selflessness

The only gift is a portion of thyself.

Abraham Lincoln

Sense

Common sense is very uncommon.

Horace Greeley

Sermons

A good honest and painful sermon.

Samuel Pepys

Sermons

None preaches better than the ant, and she says nothing.

Benjamin Franklin

Service

As for him who voluntarily performeth a good work, verily God is grateful and knowing.

The Koran

Chapter 2

Service

Doing the will of God leaves me no time for disputing about His will (plans).

Author Unknown

Service

Every kind of service necessary to the public good becomes honorable by being necessary.

Nathan Hale

Service

Give light and people will find their own way.

Author Unknown

Service

Go-Givers will become the best go-getters.

Author Unknown

Service

God gives every bird its food, but he doesn't throw it into the nest.

Author Unknown

Service

Had I but serv'd my God with half the zeal

I serv'd my king, He would not in mine age

Have left me naked to mine enemies.

William Shakespeare, Henry VIII, act II, scene ii, lines 455-57. Cardinal Wolsey is speaking to his servant, Cromwell.During the Watergate hearings, on June 12, 1973, Senator Sam Ervin quoted these words to Herbert Porter.

Service

I don't want to be saved, I want to be spent.

Frederick S. Perls

Service

If we abide by the principles taught in the Bible; our country will go on prospering and to prosper; but if we and our posterity neglect its instruction and authority; no man can tell how sudden a catastrophe may overwhelm us and bury our glory in profound obscurity.

Daniel Webster

Service

If you would have a faithful servant and one that you like, serve yourself.

Benjamin Franklin

Service

It is hard for an empty sack to stand upright.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Service

It is when we forget ourselves that we do things which will be remembered.

Author Unknown

Service

Learn to follow counsel, serve faithfully, and magnify your calling, for God's kingdom is a kingdom of order.

Author Unknown

Service

No one is useless in this world who lightens the burdens of another.

Charles Dickens

Service

Nothing is worth making that does not make the man.

Author Unknown

Service

Only a life lived for others is a life worthwhile.

Albert Einstein

Service

Our rewards in life will always be in exact proportion to our service.

Earl Nightingale

Service

Socrates said, 'Know thyself'. Cicero said, 'Control Thyself'. Jesus said,'Give of thyself'.

Author Unknown

Service

Somebody did a golden deed;

Somebody proved a friend in need;

Somebody sang a beautiful song;

Somebody smiled the whole day long;

Somebody thought, 'Tis sweet to live;'

Somebody said, 'I'm glad to give;'

Somebody fought a valiant fight;

Somebody lived to shield the right;

Was that 'somebody' you?

Author Unknown

Service

Teach me, my God and King,

In all things thee to see

And what I do in any thing,

To do it as for thee.

George Herbert

The Temple. The Elixir, 1

Service

The "Extra Mile" will have no traffic jams.

Author Unknown

Service

The foundation stone of the whole scheme is service. Service to the people, a service that will lighten, brighten, and make more profitable the lives of the majority who do the necessary work of the world.

Author Unknown

Service

The measure of a man is not the number of his servants but in the number of people whom he serves.

Author Unknown

Service

The most acceptable service of God was the doing of good to man.

Benjamin Franklin

Service

The most wonderful work in all the world is not to take iron and steel and cogwheels and make a locomotive or a watch. Nor is it to take pen and parchment and write an Iliad. Nor is it to take paint and brush and canvas and paint an Angelus. But an infinitely greater task than all this is to take an ignoble, dishonest man and transform him into an upright lovable and honest man. Here we touch the creative power of the Galilean and bow before the mysteries of God.

George R. Wellington

Service

The public must and will be served.

William Penn

Service

There never was a bad man that had ability for good service.

Edmund Burke

Service

To give aid to every poor man is far beyond the reach and power of every man. Care of the poor is incumbent on society as a whole.

Benedict Spinoza

Service

What do we live life for if not to make life less difficult for others?

George Eliot

Service

What on earth are you doing for Heaven's sake?

Author Unknown

Service

When a man forgets himself he usually does something everybody else remembers.

James Eno

Service

When a person is down in the world, an ounce of help is better than a pound of preaching.

Edward Bulwer-Lytton

Service

When he took time to help the man up the mountain, lo, he scaled it himself.

Author Unknown

Service

Who serves a good lord lives always in luxury.

Poem of the Cid

Line 850

Service

Whoever serves his country well has no need for ancestors.

Voltaire

Sex

'Tis the Devil inspires this evanescent ardor, in order to divert the parties from prayer.

Martin Luther

Sex

As to marriage or celibacy, let a man take which course he will, he will be sure to repent.

Socrates

Sex

I lose my respect for the man who can make the mystery of sex the subject of a coarse jest, yet when you speak earnestly and seriously on the subject, is silent.

Henry David Thoreau, journal entry, April 12, 1852.—The Heart of Thoreau's Journals, ed. Odell Shepard, p. 126 (1927).

Sex

Lord give me chastity—but not yet.

St. Augustine

Sex

Nothing is so much to be shunned as sex relations.

St. Augustine

Soliloquies, 1.

Sex

She hugg'd the offender, and forgave the offense:

Sex to the last.

John Dryden

Fables Ancient And Modern. Cymon And Iphigenia, 367

Sex

The state has no business in the bedrooms of the nation.

Pierre Elliott Trudeau, Canadian minister of justice, remark to newsmen, Ottawa, Canada, December 21, 1967, as reported by The Globe and Mail, Toronto, December 22 1967, p. 1.He was commenting on the government's proposal to overhaul Canadian criminal law, giving new recognition to individual rights in several areas, including sexual behavior.

William Shakespeare

England's genius filled all measure

Of heart and soul, of strength and pleasure,

Gave to the mind its emperor,

And life was larger than before:

Nor sequent centuries could hit

Orbit and sum of SHAKESPEARE'S wit.

The men who lived with him became

Poets, for the air was fame.

Ralph Waldo Emerson, "Solution," lines 35-42, Poems, p. 222 (1918).These lines are inscribed above the fireplace in the old reading room of the Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington, D.C.

William Shakespeare

He [Shakespeare] was the man who of all modern, and perhaps ancient poets, had the largest and most comprehensive soul.

John Dryden

Essay of Dramatic Poesy

William Shakespeare

Mr. William Shakespeare was born at Stratford upon Avon in the county of Warwick. His father was a butcher, and I have been told heretofore by some of the neighbors, that when he was a boy he exercised his father's trade, but when he killed a calf he would do it in a high style and make a speech.

Ben Johnson and he did gather humors of men daily wherever they came.

John Aubrey

Brief Lives, Vol. II, p. 225

Shame

I regard that man as lost who has lost his sense of shame.

Plautus

Shame

Must I hold a candle to my shames?

William Shakespeare

The Merchant of Venice, II, vi, 41

Sharing

He who is not liberal with what he has, does but deceive himself when he thinks he would be liberal if he had more.

W. S. Palmer

Ships/Shipping

At two hours after midnight appeared the land, at a distance of 2 leagues. They handed all sails and set the treo, which is the mainsail without bonnets, and lay-to waiting for daylight Friday, when they arrived at an island of the Bahamas that was called in the Indian's tongue Guanahani.

Christopher Columbus

Journal of The First Voyage, October 12, 1492

Ships/Shipping

I was shipwrecked before I got aboard.

Lucius Annaeus Seneca

Epistles, 87, 1

Ships/Shipping

It is a national humiliation that we are now compelled to pay from twenty to thirty million dollars annually (exclusive of passage money which we should share with vessels of other nations) to foreigners for doing the work which should be done by American vessels American built, American owned, and American manned. This is a direct drain upon the resources of the country of just so much money; equal to casting it into the sea, so far as this nation is concerned.

President Ulysses S. Grant, message to the Senate and House of Representatives, March 23, 1870, Congressional Globe, vol. 42, p. 2177.

Ships/Shipping

Their ships are swift as a bird or a thought.

Homer

The Odyssey, VII, 36

Ships/Shipping

[A ship is always referred to as "she"] Because it costs so much to keep one in paint and powder.

Rear Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, answer when asked why a ship is always referred to as "she," to Society of Sponsors of the United States Navy, Washington, D.C., February 13, 1940.—Associated Press dispatch, The New York Times, February 15, 1940, p. 39.

Silence

A fair request should be followed by the deed in silence.

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy, Canto XXIV, 77

Silence

After silence, that which comes nearest to expressing the inexpressible is music.

Aldous Huxley

Silence

Be silent always when you doubt your sense.

Alexander Pope

Silence

Blessed are they who have nothing to say, and who cannot be persuaded to say it.

James Russell Lowell

Silence

Blessed is the man who, having nothing to say, abstains from giving us wordy evidence of the fact.

George Eliot, Impressions of Theophrastus Such, chapter 4, p. 51 (1900). First published in 1879.

Silence

Deep in her breast lives the silent wound.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aeneid, IV, 67

Silence

Great souls endure in silence.

(Grosse Seelen dulden still.)

Friedrich Schiller, Don Carlos, act I, scene iv, Don Carlos, Mary Stuart, trans. R. D. Boylan and Joseph Mellish, p. 30 (1902). The Marquis is speaking."Great spirits suffer patiently" is the translation in Friedrich Schiller, Plays, ed. Walter Hinderer, Don Carlos trans. A. Leslie and Jeanne R. Willson, p. 124 (1983).

Silence

I am coming to feel that the people of ill will have used time much more effectively than the people of goodwill. We will have to repent in this generation not merely for the vitriolic words and actions of the bad people, but for the appalling silence of the good people. We must come to see that human progress never rolls in on wheels of inevitability. It comes through the tireless efforts and persistent work of men willing to be co-workers with God, and without this hard work time itself becomes an ally of the forces of social stagnation. We must use time creatively, and forever realize that the time is always ripe to do right. Now is the time to make real the promise of democracy, and transform our pending national elegy into a creative psalm of brotherhood. Now is the time to lift our national policy from the quicksand of racial injustice to the solid rock of human dignity.

Martin Luther King, Jr., letter to several clergymen from the Birmingham City Jail, Birmingham, Alabama, April 16, 1963.—Microfilm of original typescript, p. 6. This has been widely reprinted, with occasional textual variations.

Silence

I don't know whether to keep silent and let people think I am ignorant or open my mouth and release all doubts.

Author Unknown

Silence

I have often regretted my speech, never my silence.

Publilius Syrus

Silence

I've never had to explain something I didn't say.

Calvin Coolidge

Silence

In silence man can most readily preserve his integrity.

Meister Eckhart

Silence

In some causes silence is dangerous; so if any know of conspiracies against their country or king, or any that might greatly prejudice their neighbor, they ought to discover it.

Attributed to St. Ambrose. Unverified.

Silence

It is wise to be silent when occasion requires, and better than to speak, though never so well.

Plutarch

Morals. Of the Training of Children

Silence

One person once said 'Silence is Golden'. Another said 'It's only a yellow streak.'

Author Unknown

Silence

Secret guilt by silence is betrayed.

John Dryden

Silence

Silence gives the proper grace to women.

Sophocles

Silence

Silence is never more golden than when you hold it long enough to get all the facts before you speak.

Author Unknown

Silence

Silence is the best tactic for him who distrusts himself.

Francois Rochefoucauld

Silence

Silence is the element in which great things fashion themselves.

Thomas Carlyle

Silence

Spintharus, speaking in commendation of Epaminondas, says he scarce ever met with any man who knew more and spoke less.

Plutarch

Morals. Of Hearing, sec. 6

Silence

The best time for you to hold your tongue is the time you feel you must say something or bust.

Josh Billings

Silence

The eternal silence of these infinite spaces terrifies me.

Blaise Pascal

Pensees, 206

Silence

The silence often of pure innocence

Persuades when speaking fails.

William Shakespeare

The Winter's Tale, II, ii, 41

Silence

The silence that accepts merit as the most natural thing in the world, is the highest applause.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Silence

To sin by silence, when we should protest,

Makes cowards out of men. The human race

Has climbed on protest. Had no voice been raised

Against injustice, ignorance, and lust,

The inquisition yet would serve the law,

And guillotines decide our least disputes.

The few who dare, must speak and speak again

To right the wrongs of many. Speech, thank God,

No vested power in this great day and land

Can gag or throttle. Press and voice may cry

Loud disapproval of existing ills;

May criticise oppression and condemn

The lawlessness of wealth-protecting laws

That let the children and childbearers toil

To purchase ease for idle millionaires.

Therefore I do protest against the boast

Of independence in this mighty land.

Call no chain strong, which holds one rusted link.

Call no land free, that holds one fettered slave.

Until the manacled slim wrists of babes

Are loosed to toss in childish sport and glee,

Until the mother bears no burden, save

The precious one beneath her heart, until

God's soil is rescued from the clutch of greed

And given back to labor, let no man

Call this the land of freedom.

Ella Wheeler Wilcox, "Protest," Poems of Problems, pp. 154-55 (1914).

Silence

Under all speech that is good for anything there lies a silence that is better. Silence is deep as eternity; speech is shallow as time.

Thomas Carlyle, essay on Sir Walter Scott, Critical and Miscellaneous Essays, vol. 4, p. 190 (1881).Carlyle refers to this theme elsewhere, one example being: "As the Swiss Inscription says: Sprechen ist silbern, Schweigen ist golden (Speech is silvern, Silence is golden); or as I might express it: Speech is of Time, Silence is of Eternity."—Carlyle, Sartor Resartus and Selected Prose, book 3, chapter 3, p. 205 (1970).

Silence

We can refute assertions, but who can refute silence?

Charles Dickens

Simplicity

O holy simplicity!

John Huss

Last words, at the stake

Simplicity

The great artist is the simplifier.

Henri Frederic Amiel

The Private Journal of Henri Frederic Amiel, translated by Van Wyck and

Charles Van Wyck Brooks. November 25, 1861.

Sin

Bad men hate sin through fear of punishment; good men hate sin through their love of virtue.

Juvenal

Sin

Be fearful of little sins. Take alarm at even an evil thought; wish or desire. These are the germs of sin—the floating seeds which drop into the heart; and; finding in our natural corruption a fat and favorable soil; spring up into actual transgressions. These; like the rattle of the snake and the hiss of the serpent; reveal the presence and near neighborhood of danger. The experience of all good men proves that sin is most easily crushed in the bud; and that it is safer to flee from temptation than to fight it.

Guthrie

Sin

Do not consider any vice as trivial; and therefore practice it; do not consider any virtue as unimportant and therefore neglect it.

Wisdom of the Chinese

Sin

Do you suffer your thoughts to tamper with evil; and to dally with wrong-doing? If so; you are not sincere. God will regard your thoughts; for thoughts are heard in heaven. If you willingly sin in thought; if you are base and guilty there; because you think that no eye will see your thoughts; the guilt and baseness will sooner or later break into the outlets of word and deed—from thought to wish—from wish to purpose—from purpose to word—from word to act—from act to habit—from delight in the imagination to consent in the will—from deed to repeated transgression; such is the genesis of sin.

F. W. Farrar

Sin

God had one son on earth without sin, but never one without suffering.

Augustine

Sin

He that falls into sin is a man, he that grieves at it a saint, he that boasteth of it is a devil.

Fuller

Sin

He who sins against men may fear discovery, but he who sins against God is sure of it.

Jones

Sin

If I grapple with sin in my own strength, the devil knows he may go to sleep.

Henry Adams

Sin

Most people who commit a sin count on some personal benefit therefrom, but profanity has not even this excuse.

Hosea Ballou

Sin

Prosperity doth best discover vice; but adversity doth best discover virtue.

Sir Francis Bacon

Sin

Sin has many tools, but a lie is the handle which fits them all.

Oliver Wendell Holmes

Sin

Sin is essentially a departure from God.

Martin Luther

Sin

Sin is first displeasing; then it grows easy, then delightful, then frequent, then habitual, then confirmed; then the man is impenitent, then he is obstinate, then he is resolved never to repent, and then he is ruined.

Leighton

Sin

Sins are like circles in the water when a stone is thrown into it; one produces another. When anger was in Cain's heart murder was not far away.

Philip Henry

Sin

The vulgar story is Sin's frivolous comedy. For those whom this vile amusement enthralls he later stages his sad and dismal tragedies.

Leo J. Muir

Sin

Truly has it been said; that all that is necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing.

Author Unknown

Sin

We lose the peace of years when we seek the rapture of moments.

Edward Bulwer-Lytton

Sin

You can't go through the mill without getting dust on you.

Jacob Probst

Sincerity

'Sincerity is the way of Heaven. The attainment of sincerity is the way of men. He who possesses sincerity, is he who, without an effort, hit what is right, and apprehends, without the exercise of thought; he is the sage who naturally and easily embodies the right way. He who attains to sincerity, is he who chooses what is good, and firmly holds it fast.'

Confucius (551-479 B.C.)

The Doctrine of Mean (tr. Legge), Ch. XX, 18

Sincerity

A little sincerity is a dangerous thing, and a great deal of it is absolutely fatal.

Oscar Wilde

Sincerity

A little sincerity is a dangerous thing, and a great deal of it is absolutely fatal.

Oscar Wilde, The Critic as Artist, part 2, in The Complete Works of Oscar Wilde, vol. 5, p. 209 (1923).

Sincerity

Every man alone is sincere. At the entrance of a second person, hypocrisy begins.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Essays: First Series (1841), "Friendship"

Sincerity

Every sin is the result of a collaboration.

Stephen Crane (1871-1900)

The Blue Hotel (1899)

Sincerity

Hold faithfulness and sincerity as first principles.

Confucius

Sincerity

I am not sincere, not even when I say I am not.

Jules Renard

Sincerity

Nothing emboldens sin so much as mercy.

William Shakespeare

Timon of Athens, III, v, 3

Sincerity

Sin is not hurtful because it is forbidden, but it is forbidden because it is hurtful.

Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790)

Poor Richard's Almanac, 1734

Sincerity

Sincerity and truth are the basis of every virtue.

Confucius

Sincerity

Sincerity is impossible, unless it pervades the whole being, and the pretence of it saps the very foundation of character.

James Russell Lowell

Sincerity

Sincerity is to speak as we think, to do as we pretend and profess, to perform and make good what we promise, and really to be what we would seem and appear to be.

John Tillotson

Sincerity

The only conclusive evidence of a man's sincerity is that he gives himself fora principle. Words, money, all things else, are comparatively easy to give away;but when a man makes a gift of his daily life and practice, it is plain that the truth, whatever it may be, has taken possession of him.

James Russell Lowell

Sincerity

When a man says he approves of something in principle, it means he hasn't the slightest intention of putting it into practice.

Prince Otto von Bismarck

Sin

According to Gandhi, the seven sins are wealth without works, pleasure without conscience, knowledge without character, commerce without morality, science without humanity, worship without sacrifice, and politics without principle. Well, Hubert Humphrey may have sinned in the eyes of God, as we all do, but according to those definitions of Gandhi's, it was Hubert Humphrey without sin.

President Jimmy Carter, eulogy at funeral services for former Vice President Hubert Humphrey, St. Paul, Minnesota, January 16, 1978.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Jimmy Carter 1978, book 1, p. 80.President Carter told of finding "The Seven Sins" engraved on the wall of Gandhi's memorial during a recent trip to India.

Sin

All sin is a kind of lying.

St. Augustine

Against Lying.

Sin

Desire for greatness is a god-like sin.

John Dryden (1631-1700)

"Absalom and Achitophel" (1680)

Sin

For to sin, indeed is human; but to persevere in sin is not human but altogether satanic.

St. Joannes Chrysostomus (St. John Chrysostom) (345?-407)

Adhortatio ad Theodorum Lapsum

Sin

Great sins are great possessions; but levities and vanities possess us too; and men had rather part with Christ than with any possession.

John Donne (1573-1631)

Sermons (1619), No. XVII, folio of 1640

Sin

I have sinned against my brother the ass.

St. Francis of Assisi

Dying Words

Sin

It is the common vice of all, in old age, to be too intent upon our interests.

Terence [Publius Terentius Afer]

Adelphoe (The Brothers), 833

Sin

No one sins by an act he cannot avoid.

St. Augustine

De libero arbitrio, iii.

Sin

Question: What kind of sins are the greatest?

Answer: Adulter, fornication, murder, theft, swearing, witchcraft, sedition, heresies, or any the like.

John Bunyan

Instructions for the Ignorant, 1675.

Sin

There is a certain list of vices committed in all ages, and desclaimed against by all Authors, which will last as long as human nature; or digested into commonplaces may serve for any theme, and never be out of date until Doomsday.

Thomas Browne

Pseudoxica Epidemica, 1658.

Sin

While thousands, careless of the damning sin,

Kiss the Book's outside who never look within.

William Cowper (1731-1800)

"Expostulation" (1782), Lines 386-387

Skeptics/Skepticism

Nature confuses the skeptics and reason confutes the dogmatists.

Blaise Pascal

Skeptics/Skepticism

The farce is finished. I go to seek a vast perhaps.

Francois Rabelais

Skeptics/Skepticism

The first step toward philosophy is incredulity.

Denis Diderot

Skeptics/Skepticism

The more fervent opponents of Christian doctrine have often enough shown a temper which, psychologically considered, is indistinguishable from religious zeal.

William James

Skeptics/Skepticism

What thinking man is there who still requires the hypothesis of a God?

Friedrich Nietzsche

Skill

Skill is successfully walking a tight rope strung between the twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York City. Intelligence is not trying.

Marilyn von Savant

Slander

A slander is like a hornet; if you cannot kill it dead at the first blow, better not strike at it.

Henry Wheeler Shaw

Slander

Calumnies are answered best with silence.

Ben Jonson

Slander

Calumny is a vice of curious constitution; trying to kill it keeps it alive;leave it to itself and it will die a natural death.

Thomas Paine

Slander

Gossip has been well defined as putting two and two together and making five.

Blaise Pascal

Slander

If you must slander, don't say it, but write it in the sand near the water's edge.

Napoleon Hill

Slander

Knocking is one of the easiest things in the world to do. It only takes a thimbleful of brains. And it is the cheapest and easiest way to attract attention. But it is a mighty expensive amusement. Everybody hates a knocker.

No man ever got very high by pulling other people down. The intelligent merchant does not knock his competitors. The sensible worker does not knock those who work with him. Don't knock your friends. Don't knock your enemies. Don't knock yourself.

Don't say cutting things. Speak pleasantly of everybody whether you are pleasantly disposed or not. Boost and you will be boosted. Knock and you will be knocked.

Dr. Frank Crane

Slander

Next time the road looks rough to you; see if it isn't just a pebble that got between you and the road.

Mutual Moments

Slander

No accurate thinker will judge another person by that which the other person's enemies say about him.

Napoleon Hill

Slander

No soul of high estate can take pleasure in slander. It betrays a weakness.

Blaise Pascal

Slander

Your blameless life will be your best defense; and those who have seen it will not allow you to be condemned so readily as your slanderers expect. Only abstain from fighting your own battles; and in nine cases out of ten your accusers will gain nothing by their malevolence but chagrin for themselves and contempt from others. To persecute the slanderer is very seldom wise.

Charles H. Spurgeon

Slavery

All socialism involves slavery…. That which fundamentally distinguishes the slave is that he labours under coercion to satisfy another's desires.

Herbert Spencer,

"The Coming Slavery,"

The Contemporary Review,

April 1884, p. 474.

This essay was reprinted in

chapter 2 of his Book,

Man vs. the State (1884).

Slavery

An oppressed people are authorized whenever they can to rise and break their fetters.

Henry Clay

Speech, House of Representatives, March 4, 1818.

Slavery

As I would not be a slave, so I would not be a master. This expresses my idea of democracy. Whatever differs from this, to the extent of the difference, is no democracy.

Abraham Lincoln

Slavery

But this is slavery, not to speak one's thought.

Euripides, The Phoenician Women, line 392.—The Complete Greek Tragedies, ed. David Grene and Richmond Lattimore, vol. 4, p. 392 (1958).

Slavery

But this momentous question, like a fire bell in the night, awakened and filled me with terror.

Thomas Jefferson, letter to John Holmes, April 22, 1820.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Paul L. Ford, vol. 10, p. 157 (1899). Jefferson refers to the Missouri question, whether to admit Missouri as a slave state but prohibit slavery in the rest of the Louisiana Purchase.

Holmes was a representative from Massachusetts from 1817 to March 15, 1820, when he resigned to attend the Maine constitutional convention. He was elected to the Senate from Maine and served from June 13, 1820, to 1827, and 1829-1833.

Slavery

Fellow citizens, I will not enlarge further on your national inconsistencies. The existence of slavery in this country brands your republicanism as a sham, your humanity as a base pretense, and your Christianity as a lie. It destroys your moral power abroad, it corrupts your politicians at home. It saps the foundations of religion; it makes your name a hissing and a bye-word to a mocking earth. It is the antagonistic force in your government, the only thing that seriously disturbs and endangers your Union.

It fetters your progress, it is the enemy of improvement; the deadly foe of education; it fosters pride; it breeds indolence; it promotes vice; it shelters crime; it is a curse of the earth that supports it; and yet you cling to it as if it were the sheet anchor of all your hopes.

Frederick Douglass (1817?-1895)

Address, "The Meaning of July 4th for the American Negro," Rochester, New York, July 5, 1852

Slavery

Fellow-citizens, we cannot escape history. We of this Congress and this administration, will be remembered in spite of ourselves. No personal significance, or insignificance, can spare one or another of us. The fiery trial through which we pass, will light us down, in honor or dishonor, to the latest generation. We say we are for the Union. The world will not forget that we say this. We know how to save the Union. The world knows we do know how to save it. We—even we here—hold the power, and bear the responsibility. In giving freedom to the slave, we assure freedom to the free—honorable alike in what we give, and what we preserve. We shall nobly save, or meanly lose, the last best, hope of earth.

President Abraham Lincoln, annual message to Congress, December 1, 1862.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P Basler, vol. 5, p. 537 (1953).

Slavery

He cannot live in complaisance with others, except it be a friend; complaisance is the characteristic of a slave.

Aristotle

Ethics, IV, 3. Quoted by Durant, The Story of Philosophy.

Slavery

I believe that no people ever yet groaned under the heavy yoke of slavery but when they deserved it.

Samuel Adams

Article published in 1771.

Slavery

I did more for the Russian serf in giving him land as well as personal liberty, than America did for the negro slave set free by the proclamation of President Lincoln. I am at a loss to understand how you Americans could have been so blind as to leave the negro slave without tools to work out his salvation. In giving him personal liberty, you have him an obligation to perform to the state which he must be unable to fulfill. Without property of any kind he cannot educate himself and his children. I believe the time must come when many will question the manner of American emancipation of the negro slaves in 1863. The vote, in the hands of an ignorant man, without either property or self respect, will be used to the damage of the people at large; for the rich man, without honor or any kind of patriotism, will purchase it, and with it swamp the rights of a free people.

Alexander II, emperor of Russia, conversation with Wharton Barker, Pavlovski Palace, August 17, 1879.—Barker, "The Secret of Russia's Friendship," The Independent, March 24, 1904, p. 647.

Slavery

I do not understand that because I do not want a negro woman for a slave I must necessarily want her for a wife. My understanding is that I can just let her alone.

Abraham Lincoln, fourth debate with Senator Stephen A. Douglas, Charleston, Illinois, September 18, 1858.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P Basler, vol. 3, p. 146 (1953).

Lincoln used similar wording in a speech in Springfield, Illinois, June 26, 1857: "Now I protest against that counterfeit logic which concludes that, because I do not want a black woman for a slave I must necessarily want her for a wife. I need not have her for either. I can just leave her alone."—Collected Works, vol. 2, p. 405 (1953).

Slavery

If there is a state, then there is domination, and in turn there is slavery.

Mikhail A. Bakunin

Gesammelte Werke, Golos trude edition, I, p.233.

Slavery

In the first place, I deny everything but what I have all along admitted—the design on my part to free the slaves.

John Brown

Last speech in court, November 2, 1859, N. Y. Herald, November 3.

Slavery

Not only do I pray for it, on the score of human dignity, but I can clearly forsee that nothing but the rooting out of slavery can perpetuate the existence of our union, by consolidating it in a common bond of principle.

Attributed to George Washington.—John Bernard, Retrospections of America, 1797-1811, p. 91 (1887). This is from Bernard's account of a conversation he had with Washington in 1798. Unverified.

Slavery

Slavery…

That thing of evil, by its nature evil,

Forcing submission from a man to what

No man can yield to.

Euripides (485-406 B.C.)

Hecuba (c. 425 B.C.)

["To Euripides the glory belongs for being the first to condemn it [slavery]."—Edith Hamilton, The Greek Way of Life]

Slavery

Those arguments that are made, that the inferior race are to be treated with as much allowance as they are capable of enjoying; that as much is to be done for them as their condition will allow. What are these arguments? They are the arguments that kings have made for enslaving the people in all ages of the world. You will find that all the arguments in favor of kingcraft were of this class; they always bestrode the necks of the people, not that they wanted to do it, but because the people were better off for being ridden. That is their argument, and this argument of the Judge is the same old serpent that says you work and I eat, you toil and I will enjoy the fruits of it. Turn in whatever way you will—whether it comes from the mouth of a King, an excuse for enslaving the people of his country, or from the mouth of men of one race as a reason for enslaving the men of another race, it is all the same old serpent, and I hold if that course of argumentation that is made for the purpose of Convincing the public mind that we should not care about this, should be granted, it does not stop with the negro.

Abraham Lincoln, speech at Chicago, Illinois, July 10, 1858.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P Basler, vol. 2, p. 500 (1953).

Slavery

Whenever I hear any one, arguing for slavery I feel a strong impulse to see it tried on him personally.

President Abraham Lincoln, speech to 140th Indiana regiment, March 17, 1865.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P Basler, vol. 8, p. 361 (1953).

Slavery

Wide-sounding Zeus takes away half a man's worth on the day when slavery comes upon him.

Homer

The Odyssey, XVII, 322

Sleep

"Laugh and the world laughs with you, snore and you sleep alone."

Mrs. Patrick Campbell, letter to George Bernard Shaw, August 13, 1912.—Bernard Shaw and Mrs. Patrick Campbell: Their Correspondence, ed. Alan Dent, p. 32 (1952).Since this was in quotation marks in the letter, it may have been her own version of the familiar lines, "Laugh, and the world laughs with you; Weep, and you weep alone." These are the first two lines of Ella Wheeler Wilcox's poem, "Solitude," first published in 1883 in her Poems of Passion and widely reprinted in newspapers, often without attribution.—Burton Stevenson, Famous Single Poems, pp. 223-242 (1935).

Sleep

A man dies daily, only to be reborn in the morning, bigger, better and wiser.

Emmett Fox

Sleep

Early to bed and early to rise, Makes a man healthy, wealthy, and wise.

Benjamin Franklin

Sleep

He that riseth late must trot all day, and shall scarce overtake his business by night.

Benjamin Franklin

Sleep

How much more than is necessary do we spend in sleep, forgetting that 'The sleeping fox catches no poultry,' and that 'There will be sleeping enough in the grave.'

Benjamin Franklin

Sleep

It's always darkest before the yawn.

Bob Phillips

Sleep

O sleep! O gentle sleep!

Nature's soft nurse, how have I frighted thee,

That thou no more wilt weigh my eyelids down

And steep my senses in forgetfulness?

William Shakespeare

King Henry IV, II, III, i, 5

Sleep

Oh sleep! it is a gentle thing,

Beloved from pole to pole.

Samuel Taylor Coleridge

Sleep

One hour's sleep before midnight is worth three after.

George Herbert

Jacula Prudentum, 882

Sleep

Plough deep while sluggards sleep.

Benjamin Franklin

Sleep

Sleep that knits up the ravell'd sleave of care.

William Shakespeare

Sleep

The vigorous are no better than the lazy during one half of life, for all men are alike when asleep.

Aristotle

Sleep

There are two gates of Sleep. One is of horn, easy of passage for the shades of truth; the other, of gleaming white ivory, permits false dreams to ascend to the upper air.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aeneid, VI, 893

Sleep

There she met sleep, the brother of death.

Homer

The Iliad, XIV, 231 and XVI, 672

Sleep

You ask me why a soft numbness diffuses all my inmost senses with deep oblivion, as though with thirsty throat I'd drained the cup that brings the sleep of Lethe.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Epodes, XIV, 1

Slogans

Augustus was sensible that mankind is governed by names; nor was he deceived in his expectation that the senate and people would submit to slavery, provided they were respectfully assured that they still enjoyed their ancient freedom.

Edward Gibbon

Slogans

Man is a creature who lives not upon bread alone, but primarily by catchwords.

Robert Louis Stevenson

Smile

Comrades, this man has a nice smile, but he's got iron teeth.

Attributed to Andre Gromyko, speech to the Soviet Communist party central committee, Moscow, March 11, 1985, as reported by The Washington Post, March 17, 1985, p. A1. He was referring to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev. This statement is not found in translations of official materials.

Smile

There are hundreds of languages in the world but a smile speaks them all.

Author Unknown

Smile

Whatever it is, wherever he is, whatever he is doing, he smiles: it is a malady he has, neither an elegant one as I think, nor in good taste.

Gaius Valerius Catullus

Carmina, XXXIX, 6

Smile

When you call me that, smile!

Owen Wister, The Virginian, pp. 29-30 (1902). Presumably the forerunner of "Smile when you say that, partner," familiar to generations of moviegoers.

Smoking

IF GOD HAD INTENDED

I have walked in summer meadows

Where the sunbeams flashed and broke,

But I never saw the cattle or the sheep, or horses smoke.

I have watched the birds with wonder

When the world with dew is wet,

But I never saw a robin puffing at a cigarette.

I have fished in many a river

Where the sucker crop is ripe

But I never saw a catfish puff at a briar pipe.

Man's the only living creature

That blows where ere he goes

Like a flooming tractor engine

Smoke from mouth and nose.

If God had intended he'd smoke

When he first invented man,

He would have built him on a widely different plan.

He'd have fixed him with a stove pipe

And a damper and a grate

And he'd had a smoke consumer that was strictly up to date.

Author Unknown

Smoking

I have made it a rule never to smoke more than one cigar at a time.

Mark Twain

Smoking

It is now proved beyond doubt that smoking is one of the leading causes of statistics.

Fletcher Knebel

Smoking

Smoking is a shocking thing—blowing smoke out of our mouths into other people's mouths, eyes, and noses, and having the same thing done to us.

Samuel Johnson

Smoking

Tobacco, divine, rare, superexcellent tobacco, which goes far beyond all the panaceas, potable gold and philosopher's stones, a sovereign remedy to all diseases.

Robert Burton

Socialism

I believe that for the past twenty years there has been a creeping socialism spreading in the United States.

President Dwight D. Eisenhower, off-the-cuff speech to Republican leaders, Custer State Park, South Dakota, June 11, 1953.—Robert J. Donovan, Eisenhower: The Inside Story, p. 336 (1956).

At his press conference in Washington, D.C., June 17, 1953, President Eisenhower was asked what he meant by "creeping socialism." Donovan writes, "He replied: continued Federal expansion of the T.V.A. He reiterated for what he said was the thousandth time that he would not destroy the T.V.A., but he said that he thought it was socialistic to continue putting money paid by all the taxpayers into a single region which could then attract industry away from other areas" (p. 336). Also see Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Dwight D. Eisenhower, 1953, p. 433.

Socialism

Socialism has no business to tinker with "reforms." "Reforms" only tend to sweet-scent the capitalist rule. For Socialism in the United States to bother with reforms is like washing the garbage before dumping it into the can. Away with the garbage of capitalism.

Daniel Deleon (1852-1914)

What is Socialism" (Socialist Labor Party publication, 1956)

Socialism

Socialists propose to supplant the competitive planning of capitalism with a highly centralized planned economy. Our aim is franKly international and not narrowly patriotic (Daughters of the American Revolution please notice), but I cannot here discuss socialism's international policies.

If we gained control of the American Government, we would probably begin with a complete revision of the national governmental system. We would do one of two things. We would write an amendment to the Constitution giving the Federal Government the right to regulate all private business and to enter into any business which it deemed proper, or we would abolish the Constitution altogether, and give the National Congress the power to interpret the people's will subject only to certain general principles of free speech and free assemblage.

Paul Blanshard, "Socialist and Capitalist Planning," The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, July 1932, p. 10.

Socialism

Sociology.

Auguste Comte (1798-1857)

Word coined in 1837

Socialism

The ideal of Socialism is grand and noble; and it is, I am convinced, possible of realization, but such a state of society cannot be manufactured—it must grow. Society is an organism, not a machine.

Henry George (1839-1897)

Progress and Poverty (1879), Bk. VI, ch. I

Socialism

The socialist economy has become so strong, so vigorous that from the summits we have reached we can issue an open challenge of peaceful economic competition to the most powerful capitalist country—the United States of America.

Nikita S. Khrushchev, concluding speech to twenty-second congress of the Communist party of the Soviet Union, October 27, 1961.—Khrushchev Speaks: Selected Speeches, Articles, and Press Conferences, 1949-1961, ed. Thomas P Whitney, p. 450 (1963).

Socialism

There is danger in reckless change; but greater danger in blind conservatism.

Henry George (1839-1897)

Social Problems (1884)

Socialism

To make the worse appear the better reason.

Aristophanes

Clouds, 114 and elsewhere

Socialism

When Socialism comes into power, the Roman Church will advocate Socialism with the same vigor it is now favoring feudalism and slavery.

August Bebel

Address, Social Democratic Party Congress, Jena, 1906.

Society

…a society which has mistaken comfort for civilization.

Benjamin Disraeli (Earl of Beaconsfield) (1804-1881)

Quoted in Dean Inge, Outspoken Essays

Society

Anti-Semitism is the Socialism of fools.

August Bebel

Antisemitismus und Sozialdemokratie, October 27, 1893.

Society

Banish wisdom, discard knowledge, and gangsters will stop!

Chuang Tzu

Opening Trunks, or A Protest Against Civilization

Society

But still is by far the majority in the same old state of blindness and slavery; and much is to be feared that we shall perpetually relapse, while the real productive cause of all this superstitious folly, ecclesiastical nonsense, and holy tyranny hold a reverend place in the estimation even of those who are otherwise enlightened.

Edmund Burke

A Vindication of Natural Society, 1756.

Society

But the people are to be taken in very small doses.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Society and Solitude (1870)

Society

Every man is the creature of the age in which he lives; very few are able to raise themselves above the ideas of the time.

Voltaire

Society

Examine history; consult present experience; and you will find that far the greater part of the quarrels between several nations had scarce any other occasion than that these nations were different combinations of people, and called by different names; to an Englishman, the name of a Frenchman, a Spaniard, an Italian, much more a Turk, or a Tartar, raises ideas of hatred and contempt.

Edmund Burke

A Vindication of Natural Society, 1756.

Society

It is almost impossible to exaggerate the proneness of the human mind to take miracles as evidence, and to seek for miracles as evidence.

Matthew Arnold

Literature and Dogma.

Society

It is no less worth observing that this artificial division of mankind into separate societies is a perpetual source in itself of hatred and dissension among them. The names which distinguish them are enough to blow up hatred and rage.

Edmund Burke

A Vindication of Natural Society, 1756.

Society

It is the nature of desire not to be satisfied, and most men live only for the gratification of it. The beginning of reform is not so much to equalize property as to train the noble sort of natures not to desire more, and to prevent the lower from getting more.

Aristotle

Politics, II, 7

Society

Now, the vicissitudes that afflict the individual have their source in society. It is this situation that has given currency to the phrase "social forces." Personal relations have given way to impersonal ones. The Great Society has arrived and the task of our generation is to bring it under control. The study of how it is to be done is the function of politics.

Aneurin Bevan, In Place of Fear,' chapter 3, p. 38 (1952).

Society

Society is always taken by surprise at any new example of common sense.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Society

Society is divided into two classes: the shearers and the shorn; we should always be with the former against the latter.

Charles de Talleyrand

Society

Society is, indeed, a contract…. It is a partnership in all science, a partnership in all art, a partnership in every virtue and in all perfection.

Edmund Burke

Reflections on the Revolution in France, 1790.

Society

Society never advances….It undergoes continual changes; it is barbarous, it is civilized, it is christianized, it is rich, it is scientific; but this change is not amelioration. For every thing that is given something is taken.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Essays: First Series (1841)

Society

Society prepares the crime, the criminal commits it.

Henry Thomas Buckle

Society

The armies of the homeless and unfed—

If these are yours, if this is what you are,

Then am I yours, and what you feel, I share.

Matthew Arnold

To a Republican Friend, 1848.

Society

The first accounts we have of mankind are but so many accounts of their butcheries. All empires have been cemented in blood; and, in those early periods when the races of mankind began first to form themselves into parties and combinations, the first effect of the combination, and indeed the end for which it seems purposely formed, and best calculated, is their mutual destruction.

Edmund Burke

A Vindication of Natural Society, 1756.

Society

The great cycle of the ages is renewed. Now the Maiden returns, returns the Golden Age; a new generation now descends from heaven.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Elogues, IV, 5

Society

The gulf between employers and employed is constantly widening, and classes are rapidly forming, one comprising the very rich and powerful, while in another are found the toiling poor.

Grover Cleveland

Annual Message to Congress, 1888.

Society

The Harlot's cry from Street to Street

Shall weave Old England's winding Sheet.

William Blake

Auguries of Innocence.

Society

The Holy Roman Empire—neither holy, nor Roman, nor an empire.

Ludwig Boerne

Society

The most desirable condition of the human species, is a state of society.

William Godwin (1756-1836)

An Inquiry Concerning Political Justice

and Its Influence on General Virtue and Happiness (1793)

Society

The mutual and universal dependence of individuals who remain indifferent to one another constitutes the social network that binds them together.

Karl Marx

Society

The nature of a society is largely determined by the direction in which talent and ambition flow—by the tilt of the social landscape.

Eric Hoffer, The Temper of Our Time, p. 104 (1967).

Society

The people are the most important element in a nation; the spirits of the land and grain are next; the sovereign is the lightest.

Mencius

Book VII, 2:14.1

Society

The principles of Jefferson are the definitions and axioms of free society.

Abraham Lincoln, letter to Henry L. Pierce and others, April 6, 1859.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P. Basler, vol. 3, p. 375 (1953).

Society

The truth is men have lost their belief in the invisible… it is no longer a worship of the beautiful and good, but a calculation of the profitable.

Thomas Carlyle

Miscellanies.

Society

The truth is that a vast restructuring of our society is needed if remedies are to become available to the average person. Without that restructuring the good will that holds society together will be slowly dissipated. It is that sense of futility which permeates the present series of protests and dissents. Where there is a persistent sense of futility, there is violence; and that is where we are today.

Justice William O. Douglas, Points of Rebellion, p. 56 (1970).

Society

The Whore & Gambler, by the State

Licenc'd, build that Nation's Fate.

William Blake

Auguries of Innocence.

Society

There are only two families in the world, the Haves and the Have-nots.

Miguel de Cervantes

Don Quixote, pt. V.

Society

There are people into whose heads it never enters to conceive of any better state of society than that which now exists.

Henry George

Society

There are three sources of the moral and political principles which govern mankind, namely, revelation, natural law, and social conventions…. There are, the, three distinct kinds of virtue and vice—the religious, the natural, and the political.

Cesare Bonesana di Beccaria

Dei Delitti e delle Pene (On Crimes and Punishments), 1764.

Society

There is and always has been in an advanced stage of wealth and civilization, a conflict between labor and capital. The condition of society in the South exempts us from the disorders and dangers resulting from this conflict; and which explains why it is that the political condition of the slave-holding states has been so much more stable and quiet than that of the North.

John C. Calhoun

Senate, January 9, 1838.

Society

There never has yet existed a wealthy and civilized society in which one portion of the community did not, in point of fact, live on the labor of the others. Broad and general as is this assertion, it is fully borne out by history.

John C. Calhoun

Speech (defending slavery), Senate, 1837.

Society

Those who attempt to level never equalize. In all societies some description must be uppermost. The levellers, therefore, only change and pervert the natural order of things; they load the edifice of society by setting up in the air what the solidity of the structure requires to be on the ground.

Edmund Burke

Society

Thus the sum of things is ever being renewed, and mortals live dependent one upon another. Some races increase, others diminish, and in a short space the generations of living creatures are changed and like runners hand on the torch of life.

Lucretius [Titus Lucretius Carus]

De Rerum Natura, II, 75

Society

We are not converts of Rousseau; we are not the disciples of Voltaire; Helvetius has made no progress amongst us. Atheists are not our preachers; madmen are not our lawgivers. We know that we have made no discoveries, and we think that no discoveries are to be made, in morality, nor many in the great principles of government, nor in the ideas of liberty.

Edmund Burke

Reflections on the Revolution in France, 1790.

Society

We must beware of trying to build a society in which nobody counts for anything except a politician or an official, a society where enterprise gains no reward and thrift no privileges.

Winston Churchill, radio broadcast, London, March 21, 1943.—Winston S. Churchill: His Complete Speeches, 1897-1963, ed. Robert Rhodes James, vol. 7, p. 6761 (1974).

Society

We must someday, at last and forever, cross the line between nonsense and common sense. And on that day we shall pass from class paternalism…to human brotherhood… from political government to industrial administration; from competition in individualism to individuality in cooperation; from war and despotism, in any form, to peace and liberty.

Thomas Carlyle

Quoted by Upton Sinclair, The Cry for Justice.

Society

What is aristocracy? A corporation of the best, of the bravest.

Thomas Carlyle

Chartism.

Society

What is not good for the hive is not good for the bee.

Marcus Aurelius

Society

[Society] is a partnership in all science, a partnership in all art, a partnership in every virtue and in all perfection. As the ends of such a partnership cannot be obtained in many generations, it becomes a partnership not only between those who are living, but between those who are living, those who are dead, and those who are to be born.

Edmund Burke, "Reflections on the Revolution in France," 1790, The Works of the Right Honorable Edmund Burke, vol. 3, p. 359 (1899).

Socioeconomics

Everything in the world may be endured except continual prosperity.

Johann W. von Goethe

Socioeconomics

So long as a man enjoys prosperity, he cares not whether he is beloved.

Marcus Annaeus Lucan

Socioeconomics

The feud between the capitalist and laborer, the house of Have and the house of Want, is as old as social union, and can never be entirely quieted; but he who will act with moderation, prefer fact to theory, and remember that everything in this world is relative and not absolute, will see that the violence of the contest may be stilled.

George Bancroft

To the Workingmen of Northampton, Boston Courier, October 22, 1834.

Socioeconomics

The subordination of labor to capital is the source of all slavery: political, moral and material.

Mikhail A. Bakunin

Selected Works, p. 265.

Socioeconomics

The trade union, which originated under the European system, destroys liberty. I do not say a dollar a day is enough to support a working man, but it is enough to support a man. Not enough to support a man and five children if a man insists on smoking and drinking beer.

Henry Ward Beecher

Socioeconomics

Wealth is the parent of luxury and indolence, and poverty of meanness and viciousness, and both of discontent.

Plato

The Republic, IV, 422-A

Soldiers

An atheist could not be as great a military leader as one who is not an atheist.

Thomas H. Moorer, as reported by The Washington Post, April 29, 1970, p. C1. Admiral Moorer, then chairman-designate of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, testified in U.S. District Court supporting the policy of compulsory chapel attendance at the service academies.

Soldiers

Here rests in honored glory an American soldier known but to God.

Author unknown. Incription on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Arlington National Cemetery.

Soldiers

Honor to the Soldier, and Sailor everywhere, who bravely bears his country's cause. Honor also to the citizen who cares for his brother in the field, and serves, as he best can, the same cause—honor to him, only less than to him, who braves, for the common good, the storms of heaven and the storms of battle.

President Abraham Lincoln, letter to George Opdyke and others, December 2, 1863.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P Basler, vol. 7, p. 32 (1953).

Soldiers

I have every confidence in the ultimate success of our joint cause; but success in modern war requires something more than courage and a willingness to die: it requires careful preparation. This means the furnishing of sufficient troops and sufficient material to meet the known strength of a potential enemy. No general can make something out of nothing. My success or failure will depend primarily upon the resources which the respective governments place at my disposal. My faith in them is complete. In any event I shall do my best. I shall keep the soldier's faith.

General Douglas Macarthur, first public statement upon arriving in Australia, March 1942.—A Soldier Speaks, Public Papers and Speeches of General of the Army Douglas MacArthur ed. Vorin E. Whan, Jr., p. 115 (1965).

Soldiers

If I should die, think only this of me:

That there's some corner of a foreign field

That is for ever England.

Rupert Brooke, "The Soldier," lines 1-3, Rupert Brooke: The Complete Poems, 2d ed., p. 150 (1942, reprinted 1977).

Soldiers

It is foolish and wrong to mourn the men who died. Rather we should thank God that such men lived.

Attributed to General George S. Patton, Jr., speech at the Copley Plaza Hotel, Boston Massachusetts, June 7, 1945.—These words were reported by William Blair in The New York Times, June 8, 1945, p. 6, and by Stephen Lynch in the Boston Herald, June 8, 1945, pp. 1, 16 (where "the" appears as "these"). Other newspapers of that day have variant wordings.The speech was extemporaneous and is not included in his published papers. Biographers of Patton have used variant wordings of this quotation, and Mike Wallace as narrator of the 1965 David Wolper television production, General George Patton, quoted this as, "Let me not mourn for the men who have died fighting, but rather let me be glad that such heroes have lived."

Patton had expressed himself in similar words at a memorial service at an Allied cemetery near Palermo, Italy, November 11, 1943: "I consider it no sacrifice to die for my country. In my mind we came here to thank God that men like these have lived rather than to regret that they have died."—Harry H. Semmes, Portrait of Patton, p. 176 (1955).

Soldiers

No work of art is worth the bones of a Pomeranian Grenadier.

Otto von Bismarck-Schoenhausen

Soldiers

Oh, it's Tommy this, an' Tommy that, an' 'Tommy, go away;

But it's 'Thank you, Mister Atkins', when the band begins to play—The band begins to play, my boys, the band begins to play,

Oh, it's 'Thank you, Mister Atkins,' when the band begins to play.

Rudyard Kipling,

"Tommy," stanza 1, chorus,

The Collected Works of Rudyard Kipling:

Departmental Ditties and Barrack-Room Ballads,

vol. 25, p. 168 (1941, reprinted 1970).

Soldiers

Old soldiers never die; they just fade away.

General Douglas Macarthur, address to a joint session of Congress, April 19, 1951, Congressional Record, vol. 97, p. 4125. According to The Home Book of Quotations, ed. Burton Stevenson, 9th ed., p. 2298h, col. 2 (1964), this is a line from a soldier's parody of a nineteenth century gospel hymn, "Kind Words Can Never Die." The parody was known at West Point where MacArthur was graduated in 1903. However, since the earliest printed version of the song "Old Soldiers Never Die" is found in the London publication, Tommy's Tunes, compiled by Frederick T. Nettleingham, p. 58 (1917), there is also the theory that the origin of the parody was English. That version's line read: "Old soldiers never die, they always fade away." Several other variations have been used by English authors: "They simply fade away," Frank Richards, Old Soldiers Never Die, chapter 23, p. 324 (1933); and "they only fade away," James Ronald, Old Soldiers Never Die, p. 7 (1942).

Soldiers

Our God and Souldiers we alike adore,

Ev'n at the Brink of danger; not before:

After deliverance, both alike required;

Our God's forgotten, and our Souldiers slighted.

Francis Quarles,

"Of Common Devotion," The Complete Works

in Prose and Verse of Francis Quarles,

ed. Alexander B. Grosart,

vol. 2, p. 205 (1880).

President John F. Kennedy quoted this in remarks to members of the First Armored Division, Fort Stewart, Georgia, November 26, 1962: "Many years ago, according to the story, there was found in a sentry box in Gibraltar a poem which said:

God and the soldier, all men adore

In time of danger and not before

When the danger is passed and all things righted,

God is forgotten and the soldier slighted.

"This country does not forget God or the soldier.

Upon both we now depend. Thank you."

—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: John F Kennedy, 1962, p. 840. The First Armored Division had been deployed during the Cuban crisis.

Soldiers

So, as you go into battle, remember your ancestors and remember your descendants.

Tacitus, Agricola, an English Version of a Roman Tale, trans. G. J. Acheson, chapter 4, paragraph 22, final sentence, p. 72 (1938).

Soldiers

Soldiers! When it is announced that a respected and beloved leader has died for our freedom in the course of the battle, do not grieve, do not lose hope! Observe that anyone who dies for his country is a fortunate man, but death takes what it wants, indiscriminately, in peace-time as well as in war. It is better to die with freedom than without it.

Our fathers who have maintained our country in freedom for us have offered us their life in sacrifice; so let them be an example to you!

Soldier, trader, peasant, young and old, man and woman, be united! Defend your country by helping each other! According to ancient custom, the women will stand in defence of their country by giving encouragement to the soldier and by caring for the wounded. Although Italy is doing everything possible to disunite us, whether Christian or Muslim we will unitedly resist.

Our shelter and our shield is God. May our attackers' new weapons not deflect you from your thoughts which are dedicated to your defence of Ethiopia's freedom.

Your King who speaks to you today will at that time be in your midst, prepared to shed his blood for the liberty of Ethiopia.

Haile Selassie I, emperor of Ethiopia, address to the Ethiopian Parliament, July 18, 1935.—"My Life and Ethiopia's Progress," 1892-193, trans. Edward Ullendorff, p. 220 (1976).

Soldiers

The patriot volunteer, fighting for country and his rights, makes the most reliable soldier on earth.

Attributed to Thomas J. (Stonewall) Jackson.—Hunter McGuire, Stonewall Jackson: An Address, p. 16 (1897).

Soldiers

The soldier, above all other men, is required to perform the highest act of religious teaching—sacrifice. In battle and in the face of danger and death he discloses those divine attributes which his Maker gave when He created man in his own image. No physical courage and no brute instincts can take the place of the divine annunciation and spiritual uplift which will alone sustain him.

General Douglas Macarthur, speech at the annual reunion of veterans of the Rainbow (42d) Infantry Division of World War 1, Washington, D.C., July 14, 1935.—MacArthur, A Soldier Speaks, p. 69 (1965).

Soldiers

These endured all and gave all that justice among nations might prevail and that mankind might enjoy freedom and inherit peace.

Author unknown. Normandy Chapel, inscription on the exterior of the lintel of the chapel.—American Battle Monuments Commission, Normandy American Cemetery and Memorial, p. 16 (1975, rev. 1984).This World War II memorial inscription is very similar to the World War I memorial inscription at Oise-Aisne Cemetery: These endured all and gave that honor and justice might prevail and that the world might enjoy freedom and inherit peace.—American Battle Monuments Commission, Oise-Aisne American Cemetery and Memorial, p. 9 (1978).

Soldiers

This extraordinary war in which we are engaged falls heavily upon all classes of people, but the most heavily upon the soldier. For it has been said, all that a man hath will he give for his life; and while all contribute of their substance the soldier puts his life at stake, and often yields it up in his country's cause. The highest merit, then, is due to the soldier.

President Abraham Lincoln, remarks at closing of sanitary fair, Washington, D.C., March 18, 1864.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P. Basler, vol. 7, pp. 253-54 (1953).

Solitude

Anything for a quiet life; as the man said when he took the situation at the lighthouse.

Charles Dickens

Solitude

By all means use sometimes to be alone.

George Herbert

Solitude

I was never less alone than while by myself.

Edward Gibbon

Solitude

If you are afraid of being lonely, don't try to be right.

Jules Renard

Solitude

In solitude, be a multitude to thyself.

Tibullus

Solitude

Solitude is a torment which is not threatened in hell itself.

John Donne (1573-1631)

Meditations, Meditation V

Solitude

Solitude is as needful to the imagination as society is wholesome for the character.

James Russell Lowell

Solitude

Solitude: A good place to visit, but a poor place to stay.

Josh Billings

Solitude

The worst solitude is to have no real friendships.

Francis Bacon

Solitude

This great misfortune—to be incapable of solitude.

Jean de la Bruyere

Solitude

We walk faster when we walk alone.

Napoleon Bonaparte

Solutions

And we must face the fact that the United States is neither omnipotent or omniscient—that we are only 6 percent of the world's population—that we cannot impose our will upon the other 94 percent of mankind—that we cannot right every wrong or reverse every adversity—and that therefore there cannot be an American solution to every world problem.

President John F. Kennedy, address at the University of Washington's 100th anniversary program, Seattle, Washington, November 16, 1961.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: John F Kennedy, 1961, p. 726.

Solutions

There is always an easy solution to every human problem—neat, plausible, and wrong.

H. L. Mencken, "The Divine Afflatus," A Mencken Chrestomathy, chapter 25, p. 443 (1949).This essay was originally published in the New York Evening Mail, November 16, 1917, and reprinted in Predjudices: Second Series (1920).

Solutions

For every complex problem there is a simple solution—and it's wrong.

Bradford

Sorrow

Be still, sad heart! and cease repining;

Behind the clouds is the sun still shining;

Thy fate is the common fate of all;

Into each life some rain must fall;

Some days must be dark and dreary.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Sorrow

Cast away care, he that loves sorrow

Lengthens not a day, nor can buy tomorrow;

Money is trash, and he that will spend it,

Let him drink merrily, fortune will send it.

Thomas Dekker

The Sun's Darling

Sorrow

For gnarling sorrow hath less power to bite

The man that mocks at it and sets it light.

William Shakespeare

King Richard II, I, iii, 292

Sorrow

If we could read the secret history of our enemies, we should find in each man's life sorrow and suffering enough to disarm all hostilities.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Sorrow

Light griefs are loquacious, but the great are dumb.

Lucius Annaeus Seneca

Hippolytus, II, 3, 607

Sorrow

Sing away sorrow, cast away care

Miguel de Cervantes

Don Quixote, pt. I, III, 8, 153

Sorrow

Sorrow breaks seasons and reposing hours,

Makes the night morning, and the noontide night.

William Shakespeare

King Richard III, I, iv, 76

Sorrow

Sorrow, like rain, makes roses and mud.

Austin O'Malley

Sorrow

There are people who are always anticipating trouble, and in this way they manage to enjoy many sorrows that never really happen to them.

Henry Wheeler Shaw

Sorrow

To show an unfelt sorrow is an office

Which the false man does easy.

William Shakespeare

Macbeth, II, iii, 143

Sorrow

When sorrows come, they come not single spies,

But in battalions.

William Shakespeare

Hamlet, IV, v, 78

Soul

It is with narrow souled people as with narrow necked bottles; the less they have in them, the more noise they make in pouring it out.

Pope

Space

By thought I embrace the universal.

Blaise Pascal

Space

Nothing puzzles me more than time and space, and yet nothing puzzles me less, for I never think about them.

Charles Lamb

Space

When it is dark enough you can see the stars.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Space Exploration

First, I believe that this nation should commit itself to achieving the goal, before this decade is out, of landing a man on the moon and returning him safely to the earth.

I believe we should go to the moon. But…there is no sense in agreeing or desiring that the United States take an affIrmative position in outer space, unless we are prepared to do the work and bear the burdens to make it successful.

President John F. Kennedy, special message to a joint session of Congress on urgent national needs, May 25, 1961.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: John F Kennedy, 1961, pp. 404, 405.

Space Exploration

Many years ago the great British explorer George Mallory, who was to die on Mount Everest, was asked why did he want to climb it. He said "Because it is there." Well, space is there, and we're going to climb it, and the moon and the planets are there, and new hopes for knowledge and peace are there.

President John F. Kennedy, address on the nation's space effort, Rice University, Houston, Texas, September 12, 1962.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: John F Kennedy, 1962, p. 668.Mallory's remark, "Because it's there," was reported in The New York Times, March 18, 1923, p. 11, during his visit to New York.

Space Exploration

Some say God is living there [in space]. I was looking around very attentively, but I did not see anyone there. I did not detect either angels or gods…. I don't believe in God. I believe in man—his strength, his possibilities, his reason.

Gherman Titov, Soviet cosmonaut, comments at world's fair, Seattle, Washington, May 6, 1962, as reported by The Seattle Daily Times, May 7, 1962, p. 2.

Space Exploration

That's one small step for a man, one giant leap for mankind.

Neil A. Armstrong, message on first stepping on the moon, July 20, 1969.—The Washington Post, July 21, 1969, p. 1.In the original transmission, the article "a" was lost, causing the message to be printed erroneously in countless newspapers.—Richard Hanser, "Of Deathless Remarks," American Heritage, June 1970, p. 59.

Space Exploration

The Eagle has landed.

Neil A. Armstrong, radio message announcing the first landing on the moon, July 20, 1969.—The Washington Post, July 21, 1969, p. 1.

Space Exploration

The emergence of this new world poses a vital issue: will outer space be preserved for peaceful use and developed for the benefit of all mankind? Or will it become another focus for the arms race—and thus an area of dangerous and sterile competition? The choice is urgent. And it is ours to make. The nations of the world have recently united in declaring the continent of Antarctica "off limits" to military preparations. We could extend this principle to an even more important sphere. National vested interests have not yet been developed in space or in celestial bodies. Barriers to agreement are now lower than they will ever be again.

President Dwight D. Eisenhower, address before the fifteenth General Assembly of the United Nations, New York City, September 22, 1960.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Dwight D. Eisenhower, 1960-61, p. 714.

Space Exploration

To see the earth as we now see it, small and blue and beautiful in that eternal silence where it floats, is to see ourselves as riders on the earth together, brothers on that bright loveliness in the unending night—brothers who see now they are truly brothers.

Archibald Macleish, "Bubble of Blue Air," Riders on the Earth; Essays and Recollections by Archibald MacLeish, epigraph, p. xiv (1978).This was written by MacLeish for The New York Times "after the Appollo mission of 1968 returned from space with a photograph of what earth looked like as seen from beyond the moon: the photograph which gave mankind its first understanding of its actual situation; riders on the earth together, brothers on that bright loveliness in the unending night—brothers who see now they are truly brothers" (p. ix).

The article has slightly different wording and reads as follows: "To see the earth as it truly is, small and blue and beautiful in that eternal silence where it floats, is to see ourselves as riders on the earth together, brothers on that bright loveliness in the eternal cold—brothers who know now they are truly brothers."—The New York Times, December 25, 1968, p. 1.

Space Exploration

Yet I do seriously and on good grounds affIrm it possible to make a flying chariot in which a man may sit and give such a motion unto it as shall convey him through the air. And this perhaps might be made large enough to carry divers men at the same time, together with food for their viaticum and commodities for traffic. It is not the bigness of anything in this kind that can hinder its motion, if the motive faculty be answerable thereunto. We see a great ship swims as well as a small cork, and an eagle flies in the air as well as a little gnat.

'Tis likely enough that there may be means invented of journeying to the moon; and how happy they shall be that are first successful in this attempt.

John Wilkins, A Discourse Concerning a New World and Another Planet, book 1, chapter 14, pp. 238-39 (1640). Spelling modernized.

Speaking Out

A good portion of speaking will consist in knowing how to lie.

Desiderius Erasmus (1465-1536)

Colloquies

Speaking Out

A man cannot speak but he judges himself.

…no man thoroughly understands a truth until he has contended against it.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Essays: First Series (1841)

Speaking Out

All is not gospel that thou dost speak.

John Heywood

Proverbs, pt. II, ch. 2

Speaking Out

An orator is a good man who is skilled in speaking.

Marcus Porcius Cato, The Elder

From Seneca The Elder, Controveriae I, Preface, and elsewhere

Speaking Out

From his tongue flowed speech sweeter than honey.

Homer

The Iliad, I, 249

Speaking Out

Have I inadvertently said some evil thing?

Phocion

From Plutarch, Apothegms, Phocion, 10

Speaking Out

It was government by discussion that broke the bond of ages and set free the originality of mankind.

George F. Baer

Quoted by Adlai Stevenson, Harper's, February, 1956.

Speaking Out

Laws can embody standards; governments can enforce laws—but the final task is not a task for government. It is a task for each and every one of us. Every time we turn our heads the other way when we see the law flouted—when we tolerate what we know to be wrong—when we close our eyes and ears to the corrupt because we are too busy, or too frightened—when we fail to speak up and speak out—we strike a blow against freedom and decency and justice.

Robert F. Kennedy, attorney general, remarks before the Joint Defense Appeal of the American Jewish Committee and the Anti-Defamation League of the B'nai B'rith, Chicago, Illinois, June 21, 1961.—A New Day: Robert F Kennedy, ed. Bill Adler, p. 26 (1968).

Speaking Out

Let there be no inscription upon my tomb. Let no man write my epitaph. No man can write my epitaph. I am here ready to die.

Robert Emmet (1778-hanged 1803)

Speech, after trial and conviction, September 1803

Speaking Out

No voice is wholly lost that is the voice of many men.

Aristotle

Speaking Out

She, more than kisses, letters mingle souls;

For, thus friends absent speak.

John Donne

Verse Letter to Sir Henry Wotton, 1

Speaking Out

Singular indeed that the people should be writhing under oppression and injury, and yet not one among them to be found, to raise the voice of complaint.

Abraham Lincoln, remarks in the Illinois legislature, January 11, 1837.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P. Basler, vol. 1, p. 65 (1953).

A related expression is, "You must be vocal at all times on political matters, pro or con, voicing your opinion so that it may be heard by those who govern," attributed to David L. Lawrence, governor of Pennsylvania 1958-1962. Unverified.

Speaking Out

Speak boldly, and speak truly,

Shame the devil.

John Fletcher (1579-1625)

Wit Without Money (1614), Act 4

Speaking Out

Speak not so hastily: the gods themselves

By gifts are swayed, as fame relates, and gold

Hath a far greater influence o'er the souls

Of mortals than the most persuasive words.

Euripides (485-406 B.C.)

Medea (431 B.C.)

Speaking Out

Speak the speech, I pray you, as I pronounced it to you, trippingly on the tongue; but if you mouth it, as many of your players do, I had as lief the towncrier spoke my lines. Nor do not saw the air too much with your hand, thus; but use all gently: for in the very torrent, tempest, and—as I may say—whirlwind of passion, you must acquire and beget a temperance, that may give it smoothness. O! it offends me to the soul to hear a robustious periwig-pated fellow tear a passion to tatters, to very rags, to split the ears of the groundlings, who for the most part are capable of nothing bu inexplicable dumbshows and noise: I would have such a fellow whipped for o'erdoing Termagant; it out-herods Herod.

William Shakespeare

Hamlet, III, ii, 1

Speaking Out

Speaking, he addressed her winged words.

Homer

The Iliad, I, 218

Speaking Out

Talking and eloquence are not the same: to speak, and to speak well, are two things. A fool may talk, but a wise man speaks.

Ben Jonson

Timber; or, Discoveries Made Upon Men and Matter

Speaking Out

The historian should be fearless and incorruptible; a man of independence, loving frankness and truth; one who, as the poet says, calls a fig a fig and a spade a spade. He should yield to neither hatred nor affection, but should be unsparing and unpitying. He should be neither shy nor deprecating, but an impartial judge, giving each side all it deserves but no more. He should know in his writings no country and no city; he should bow to no authority and acknowledge no king. He should never consider what this or that man will think, but should state the facts as they really occurred.

Lucian, How History Should Be Written (De Historia Conscribenda).—The Great Thoughts, ed. George Seldes, p. 251 (1985).

Speaking Out

There is tonic in the things that men do not love to hear; and there is damnation in the things that wicked men love to hear. Free speech is to a great people what winds are to oceans and malarial regions, which waft away the elements of disease, and bring new elements of health; and where free speech is stopped miasma is bred, and death comes fast.

Henry Ward Beecher

Speaking Out

There's no good speech save in Paris.

Francois Villon

Le Grand Testament, Ballade des Femmes de Paris

Speaking Out

Think before thou speakest.

Miguel de Cervantes

Don Quixote, pt. I, IV, 3, 252

Speaking Out

Try to raise a voice that shall be heard from here to Albany and watch what it is that comes forward to shut off the sound. It is not a German sergeant, nor a Russian officer of the precinct. It is a note from a friend of your father's offering you a place in his office. This is your warning from the secret police. Why, if any of you young gentlemen have a mind to get heard a mile off, you must make a bonfire of your reputation, and a close enemy of most men who wish you well.

And what will you get in return? Well, if I must for the benefit of the economists, charge you up with some selfish gain, I will say that you get the satisfaction of having been heard, and that this is the whole possible scope of human ambition.

John Jay Chapman, "The Unity of Human Nature," address delivered before the Hobart Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, Hobart College, Geneva, New York, on commencement day, June 20, 1900.—Chapman, Learning and Other Essays, p. 185 (1910, reprinted 1968).

Speaking Out

When Hitler attacked the Jews….I was not a Jew, therefore, I was not concerned. And when Hitler attacked the Catholics, I was not a Catholic, and therefore, I was not concerned. And when Hitler attacked the unions and the industrialists, I was not a member of the unions and I was not concerned. Then, Hitler attacked me and the Protestant church—and there was nobody left to be concerned.

Attributed to Martin Niemöller.—Congressional Record, October 14, 1968, vol. 114, p. 31636.This statement has not been documented in biographies of Niemöller, nor was it contained in the 1945 Stuttgart Statement of Guilt, but the attribution is widely accepted.

Speaking Out

When we desire to confine our words, we commonly say they are spoken under the rose.

Sir Thomas Browne

Vulgar Errors

Speech

A man crossed an abalone and a crocodile hoping to get an abadile. However, he got a crocabalone.

Author Unknown

Speech

A man is not bad because a viper bites him. Excellent persons are liable to be assailed by malicious slanderers; who, because of their serpent nature; take delight in attacking the good. An apostle once had a viper fasten upon his hand; but he shook it off into the fire; and it did him no harm.

Charles H. Spurgeon

Speech

A spoken word is not a sparrow. Once it flies out, you can't catch it.

Russian Proverb

Speech

Argument is that which we resort to when we have nothing to say but insist on saying it anyway.

Frank H. Brown

Speech

Boys flying kites haul in their winged birds—You can't do that when you're flying words. Thoughts unexpressed may sometimes fall back dead, But God himself can't kill them when they're said.

Will Carleton

Speech

Dear Lord, fill my mouth with lots of good stuff and tap me when I've said enough.

Author Unknown

Speech

Don't say cutting things. Speak pleasantly of everybody whether you are pleasantly disposed or not. Boost and you will be boosted. Knock and you will be knocked.

Dr. Frank Crane

Speech

Eating words has never given me indigestion.

Winston Churchill

Speech

From the looks not the lips the soul speaks.

Author Unknown

Speech

He who knows does not speak. He who speaks does not know.

Lao Tse

Speech

I've decided to discontinue my long talks. It's because of my throat….Someone threatened to cut it.

Author Unknown

Speech

Keep your mouth closed until your mind is in gear.

Author Unknown

Speech

Language shows a man, speak that I may see thee.

Ben Jonson

Speech

Men thought only to justify their wrongdoings, and speech only to conceal their thoughts.

Voltaire

Speech

Nature has given us two eyes and two ears, and but one tongue, to the end that we should see and hear twice as much as we speak.

Socrates

Speech

No man ever got very high by pulling other people down. The intelligent merchant does not knock his competitors. The sensible worker does not work those who work with him. Don't knock your friends. Don't knock your enemies. Don't knock yourself.

Dr. Frank Crane

Speech

O God, that any one should put an enemy in their mouth to steal away their brains.

William Shakespeare

Speech

Speak what you think today in words as hard as cannonballs, and tomorrow speak what tomorrow thinks in hard words again, though it contradict everything you said today.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Speech

Speech is a mirror of the soul; as a man speaks, so is he.

Publilius Syrus

Speech

Speech is power: speech is to persuade, to convert, to compel.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Speech

Speech was given to the ordinary sort of men whereby to communicate their mind; but to wise men, whereby they conceal it.

Robert South

Speech

Surely human affairs would be far happier if the power in men to be silent were the same as that to speak. But experience more than sufficiently teaches that men govern nothing with more difficulty than their tongues.

Benedict Spinoza

Speech

Teach your child to hold his tongue,

He'll learn fast enough to speak.

Benjamin Franklin

Speech

The great man does not think beforehand of his words that they may be sincere, nor of his actions that they may be resolute—he simply speaks and does what is right.

Mencius

Speech

The mind is a wonderful thing. It starts to work the minute you are born, and never stops until you get up to speak in public.

John Mason Brown

Speech

The more you say, the less people remember, the fewer the words, the deeper the impression.

Francis Fenelon

Speech

The reason there are so few good talkers in public is that there are so few thinkers in private.

Author Unknown

Speech

The superior man is modest in his speech, but exceeds in his actions.

Confucius

Speech

The tongue is but three inches long, yet it can kill a man six feet high.

Japanese Proverb

Speech

Think twice before you speak, because your words

And influence will plant the seed of either

Success or failure in the mind of another.

Napoleon Hill

Speech

Think twice before you speak, then say it to yourself first.

Author Unknown

Speech

To save face keep lower half closed.

Confucius

Speech

We come too late to say anything which has not been said already.

Jean de la Bruyere

Speech

Words like winter snowflakes.

Homer

Speeches

A talk is like a woman's dress. Long enough to cover the subject, but short enough to be interesting.

Author Unknown

Speeches

After all is said and done, sit down.

Bill Copeland

Speeches

There is no power like that of oratory. Caesar controlled men by exciting their fears, Cicero by captivating their affections and swaying their passions. The influence of the one perished with its author; that of the other continues to this day.

Henry Clay

Spirit

A generous and noble spirit cannot be expected to dwell in the breasts of men who are struggling for their daily bread.

Dionysius of Halicarnassus (c. 20 B.C.)

Antiquities of Rome

Spirit

Give me a spirit that on this life's rough sea

Loves t'have his sails fill'd with a lusty wind,

Even till his sail-yards tremble, his masts crack,

And his rapt ship run on her side so low

That she drinks water, and her keel plows air.

George Chapman

Conspiracy of Charles, Duke of Byron, act III, sc. i

Spirit

I am certain that after the dust of centuries has passed over our cities, we, too, will be remembered not for victories or defeats in battle or in politics, but for our contribution to the human spirit.

President John F. Kennedy, remarks at a closed-circuit television broadcast on behalf of the national cultural center, November 29, 1962.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: John F Kennedy, 1962, pp. 846-47. Inscription on the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Washington, D.C.

Spirit

I am the spirit that always dissents.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832)

Faust (1806)

Spirit

If that vital spark that we find in a grain of wheat can pass unchanged through countless deaths and resurrections, will the spirit of man be unable to pass from this body to another?

William Jennings Bryan, eulogy, Elks Lodge annual memorial service, Lincoln, Nebraska, December 2, 1906, as reported by the Nebraska State Journal, December 3, 1906, p. 3.In "The Prince of Peace,' a lecture delivered at Chautauquas and religious gatherings, starting in 1904, he phrased the idea this way: "If this invisible germ of life in the grain of wheat can thus pass unimpaired through three thousand resurrections, I shall not doubt that my soul has power to clothe itself with a body suited to its new existence when this earthly frame has crumbled into dust."—Speeches of William Jennings Bryan, vol. 2, p. 284 (1909).

Spirit

Never the spirit was born; the spirit shall cease to be never;

Never was time it was not; End and Beginning are dreams!

Birthless and deathless and changeless remaineth the spirit for ever; Death hath not touched it at all, dead though the house of it seems!

Who knoweth it exhaustless, self-sustained,

Immortal, indestructible,—shall such

Say, "I have killed a man, or caused to kill?"

Nay, but as when one layeth

His worn-out robes away,

And, taking new ones, sayeth,

"These will I wear today!"

So putteth by the spirit

Lightly its garb of flesh,

And passeth to inherit

A residence afresh.

Bhagavad Gita.—The Song Celestial or Bhagavad-Gita, trans. Sir Edwin Arnold, pp. 10-11 (1934). This is chapter 2, sections 20-22 in other editions.

Spirit

No amount of skill can compensate for an absence of the spirit.

Roland Wright

Spirit

No man has ever yet been hanged for breaking the spirit of a law.

Grover Cleveland (1837-1908)

Quoted in Hibben's Peerless Leader

Spirit

The half of my own soul.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Odes, I, iii, 8

Spirit

The soul is the captain and ruler of the life of mortals.

Sallust [Gaius Sallustius Crispus]

The War with Jugurtha, 1

Spirit

The spirit of the valley never dies.

It is called the subtle and profound female.

The gate of the subtle and profound female

Is the root of Heaven and Earth.

It is continuous, and seems to be always existing.

Use it and you will never wear it out.

Lao Tzu

The Way of Lao Tzu 6

Spirit

The sword conquered for a while, but the spirit conquers for ever!

Sholem Asch, The Apostle, trans. Maurice Samuel, p. 804 (1943).

Spirit

Unhappy spirits that fell with Lucifer,

Conspired against our God with Lucifer,

And are forever damned with Lucifer.

Christopher Marlowe

The Tragical History of Doctor Faustus, sc. iii

Spirituality

If you find yourself further from God than you were yesterday, you can be sure who has moved.

Author Unknown

Spirituality

Man is occasionally what he should be perpetually.

Author Unknown

Spirituality

Spirituality engenders creativity, disciplining the mind, heart and body. With it you won't be preoccupied with the things you can't change, and you can center your efforts on the things that make a difference…asking how my time can be improved and how things can be made more beautiful and useful.

Harold Glen Clark

Spirituality

Two people can do anything as long as one of them is the Lord.

Author Unknown

Spirituality

Without His love I can do nothing, with His love there is nothing I cannot do.

Author Unknown

Sports

Golf is a good walk spoiled.

Mark Twain

State

A question like the present should be disposed of without undue delay. But a State cannot be expected to move with the celerity of a private business man; it is enough if it proceeds, in the language of the English Chancery, with all deliberate speed.

Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, Virginia v. West Virginia, 222 U.S. 19-20 (1911). The best known use of the phrase "all deliberate speed" is in Chief Justice Earl Warren's opinion of the court, Brown et al. v. Board of Education of Topeka, et al., 349 U.S. 301 (1954).

State

A state is not a mere society, having a common place, established for the prevention of mutual crime and for the sake of exchange….Political society exists for the sake of noble actions, and not of mere companionship.

Aristotle

Politics, III, 9

State

If the State cannot survive the anti-slavery agitation, then let the State perish. If the Church must be cast down by the strugglings of Humanity to be free, then let the Church fall, and its fragments to be scattered to the four winds of heaven, never more to curse the earth.

William Lloyd Garrison (1805-1879)

The Liberator, December 15, 1837

State

It is one of the happy incidents of the federal system that a single courageous State may, if its citizens choose, serve as a laboratory; and try novel social and economic experiments without risk to the rest of the country.

Justice Louis D. Brandeis, dissenting, New State Ice Co. v. Liebmann, 285 U.S. 311 (1932).

State

Powerful states can maintain themselves only by crime, little states are virtuous only by weakness.

Mikhail A. Bakunin

Selected Works, p. 211.

State

The church must be reminded that it is not the master or the servant of the state, but rather the conscience of the state.

Martin Luther King, Jr., Strength to Love, p. 47 (1963).

State

The first act by virtue of which the State really constitutes itself the representative of the whole of society—the taking possession of the means of production in the name of society—this is, at the same time, its last independent act as a State. State interference in social relations becomes, in one domain after another, superfluous, and then dies out of itself; the government of persons is replaced by the administration of things, and by the conduct of processes of production. The State is not "abolished." It dies out.

Friedrich Engels, Socialism, Utopian and Scientific, trans. Edward Aveling, p. 49 (1901).

State

The State, in choosing men to serve it, takes no notice of their opinions. If they be willing faithfully to serve it, that satisfies.

Oliver Cromwell

Before the Battle of Marston Moor

State

The worth of a State, in the long run, is the worth of the individuals composing it; and a State which postpones the interests of their mental expansion and elevation, to a little more of administrative skill, or of that semblance of it which practice gives, in the details of business; a State which dwarfs its men, in order that they may be more docile instruments in its hands even for beneficial purposes—will find that with small men no great thing can really be accomplished; and that the perfection of machinery to which it has sacrificed everything, will in the end avail it nothing, for want of the vital power which, in order that the machine might work more smoothly, it has preferred to banish.

John Stuart Mill, On Liberty, ed. David Spitz, chapter 5, pg.106 (1975). Originally published in 1859.

State

We are gong down the road to stateism. Where we will wind up, no one can tell, but if some of the new programs seriously proposed should be adopted, there is danger that the State

individual—whether farmer, worker, manufacturer, lawyer, or doctor—will soon be an economic slave pulling an oar in the galley of the state.

James F. Byrnes, "Great Decisions Must Be Made," speech delivered at the bicentennial celebration of Washington and Lee University, Lexington, Virginia, June 18, 1949.—Vital Speeches of the Day, July 15, 1949, p. 580.Byrnes served in Congress 1911-1925 and 1930-1941.

States Rights

I believe each individual is naturally entitled to do as he pleases with himself and the fruit of his labor, so far as it in no wise interferes with any other man's rights—that each community, as a State, has a right to do exactly as it pleases with all the concerns within that State that interfere with the right of no other State, and that the general government, upon principle, has no right to interfere with anything other than that general class of things that does concern the whole.

Abraham Lincoln, speech at Chicago, Illinois, July 10, 1858.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P. Basler, vol. 2, p. 493 (1953).

States Rights

Is the United States going to decide, are the people of this country going to decide that their Federal Government shall in the future have no right under any implied power or any court-approved power to enter into a solution of a national economic problem, but that that national economic problem must be decided only by the States? We thought we were solving it, and now it has been thrown right straight in our faces. We have been relegated to the horse-and-buggy definition of interstate commerce.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt, remarks at press conference, May 31, 1935.—The Public Papers and Addresses of Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1935, pp. 215, 221 (1938).

Monday, May 27, 1935, became known as "Black Monday." One of the decisions the Supreme Court handed down that day was the case of Schechter Poultry Corporation v. United States, to which Roosevelt refers.

States Rights

No political dreamer was ever wild enough to think of breaking down the lines which separate the States, and of compounding the American people into one common mass.

Chief Justice John Marshall, McCulloch v. Maryland, 17 U.S. 403 (1819).

Statesman

A great statesman is he who knows when to depart from traditions, as well as when to adhere to them.

John Stuart Mill, Considerations on Representative Government, chapters, p. 93 (1861).

Statesman

But a good patriot, and a true politician, always considers how he shall make the most of the existing materials of his country. A disposition, to preserve, and an ability to improve, taken together, would be my standard of a statesman. Everything else is vulgar in the conception, perilous in the execution.

Edmund Burke, "Reflections on the Revolution in France," 1790, The Works of the Right Honorable Edmund Burke, vol. 3, p. 440 (1899).

Statesman

Statesmen have to bend to the collective will of their peoples or be broken.

Attributed to Woodrow Wilson. Unverified.

Statesman

When statesmen forsake their own private conscience for the sake of their public duties they lead their country by a short route to chaos.

Robert Bolt, A Man for All Seasons, act I, p. 12 (1968). Sir Thomas More is speaking. Ellipses in original.

Statistics

He uses statistics as a drunken man uses lamp posts—for support rather than for illumination.

Andrew Lang

Statistics

Statistics are no substitute for judgment.

Henry Clay

Statistics

The individual source of the statistics may easily be the weakest link. Harold Cox tells a story of his life as a young man in India. He quoted some statistics to a Judge, an Englishman, and a very good fellow. His friend said, "Cox, when you are a bit older, you will not quote Indian statistics with that assurance. The Government are very keen on amassing statistics—they collect them, add them, raise them to the nth power, take the cube root and prepare wonderful diagrams. But what you must never forget is that every Statistics

one of those figures comes in the first instance from the chowty dar [chowkidar] (village watchman), who just puts down what he d—- pleases."

Josiah Stamp, Some Economic Factors in Modern Life, pp. 258-59 (1929).

Statistics

There are three kinds of lies: lies, damned lies, and statistics.

Mark Twain, Mark Twain's Autobiography, p. 246 (1924), quotes this as a remark attributed to Disraeli.

Current quotation books, in addition to naming Mark Twain or Disraeli, have Suggested Henry Labouchere, Abram S. Hewitt, and Holloway H. Frost; one bravely says "author unidentified."

The quotation, or a variation, seems to be known internationally. When a Russian citizen was interviewed, following the death of Chernenko, he began by saying, "As one of your writers said, 'There are three kinds of lie: a small lie, a big lie and politics.'" —Time, March 25, 1985, p. 21.

Statue of Liberty

Not like the brazen giant of Greek fame,

With conquering limbs astride from land to land;

Here at our sea-washed, sunset gates shall stand

A mighty woman with a torch, whose flame

Is the imprisoned lightning, and her name

Mother of Exiles. From her beacon-hand

Glows world-wide welcome; her mild eyes command

The air-bridged harbor that twin cities frame.

"Keep, ancient lands, your storied pomp!" cries she

With silent lips. "Give me your tired, your poor,

Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,

The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.

Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me,

I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"

Emma Lazarus, "The New Colossus' Emma Lazarus, Selection from Her Poetry and Prose, ed. Morris U. Schappes, pp. 40-41 (1944).Congress had allocated money to erect Frederic Bartholdi's Statue of Liberty Enlightening the World, but had provided no money for a pedestal. A citizens committee invited famous authors to write appropriate words and donate their manuscripts for auction. Lazarus wrote this sonnet (1883), which can be found on a plaque in the pedestal of the Statue of Liberty. The last four and a half lines are also engraved on the wall of the reception hall of John F. Kennedy International Airport, New York City.—Dan Vogel, Emma Lazarus, pp. 157, 159 (1980).

Statue of Liberty

You have set up in New York Harbor a monstrous idol which you call Liberty. The only thing that remains to complete that monument is to put on its pedestal the inscription written by Dante on the gate of hell: "All hope abandon ye who enter here."

George Bernard Shaw, The Future of Political Science in America, pp. 7-8 (1933). This address was given at the Metropolitan Opera House, New York City, April 11, 1933, before a special meeting of the Academy of Political Science held in honor of Shaw's first visit to America.

Story-Telling

An old story, but the glory of it is forever.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aeneid, IX, 79

Story-Telling

The story's about you.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Satires, I, i, 69

Story-Telling

They say I tell a great many stores; I reckon I do, but I have found in the course of a long experience that common people, take them as they run, are more easily informed through the medium of a broad illustration than in any other way, and as to what the hypercritical few may think, I don't care.

Abraham Lincoln

Story-Telling

[The art of the novel] does not simply consist in the author's telling a story about the adventures of some other person…. It happens because the storyteller's own experience of men and things, whether for good or ill—not only what he has passed through himself, but even events which he has only witnessed or been told of—has moved him to an emotion so passionate that he can no longer keep it shut up in his heart…. There must never come a time, he feels, when men do not know about it….

Clearly then, it is no part of the storyteller's craft to describe only what is good or beautiful. Sometimes, of course, virtue will be his theme, and he may then make such play with it as he will. But he is just as likely to have been struck by numerous examples of vice and folly in the world around him, and about them he has exactly the same feelings as about the preeminently good deeds which he encounters: they are important and must all be garnered in. Thus anything whatsoever may become the subject of a novel, provided only that it happens in this mundane life and not in some fairyland beyond our human ken.

Murasaki Shikibu

The Tale of Genji

Strangers

I do desire we may be better strangers.

William Shakespeare

As You Like It, III, ii, 276

Strength

A great pilot can sail even when his canvas is rent.

Lucius Annaeus Seneca

Epistles, 30, 3

Strength

I know I have the body of a weak and feeble woman; but I have the heart and stomach of a king, and of a King of England, too.

Elizabeth I (1533-1603), Queen of England

Speech, Tillbury, Awaiting The Armada, 1588

Strength

It is from weakness that people reach for dictators and concentrated government power. Only the strong can be free. And only the productive can be strong.

Wendell Willkie, speech accepting nomination as Republican candidate for president, Elwood, Indiana, August 17, 1940.—Willkie, This Is Wendell Willkie, pp. 273-74 (1940).

Strength

It is not possible to fight beyond your strength, even if you strive.

Homer

The Iliad, Xiii, 787

Strength

O saving Victim, opening wide

The gate of heaven to man below,

Our foes press on from every side,

Thine aid supply, Thy strength bestow.

St. Thomas Aquinas

Verbum Supernum Prodiens (hymn for Lauds on Corpus Christi), st. 5 (O Salutaris Hostia)

Strength

O! it is excellent

To have a giant's strength; but it is tyrannous

To use it like a giant.

William Shakespeare

Measure for Measure, II, ii, 107

Strength

Our real problem, then, is not our strength today; it is rather the vital necessity of action today to ensure our strength tomorrow.

President Dwight D. Eisenhower, State of the Union address to a joint session of Congress, January 9, 1958.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Dwight D. Eisenhower, 1958, p. 5.

Strength

The gods are on the side of the stronger.

Caius Cornelius Tacitus

Histories, IV, 17

Strength

There is one thing stronger than all the armies in the world, and that is an idea whose time has come.

Victor Hugo

Strike

Strike, but hear me.

Themistocles

From Plutarch, Lives, Themistocles, 11

Strike

There is no right to strike against the public safety by anybody, anywhere, any time.

Calvin Coolidge, governor of Massachusetts, telegram to Samuel Gompers, September 14, 1919, regarding the Boston police strike.—Coolidge, Have Faith in Massachusetts, p. 223 (1919).

Study

Some people study all their life, and at death they have learned everything except how to think.

Author Unknown

Style

Chopin may now publish anything without putting his name to it…it is impossible to be for a moment uncertain as to its source.

Robert Schumann

Style

Every style that is not boring is a good one.

Voltaire

Style

If any man wishes to write a clear style, let him first be clear in his thoughts.

Johann W. von Goethe

Style

No style is good that is not fit to be spoken or read aloud with effect.

William Hazlitt

Style

Style is the physiognomy of the mind, and a safer index to character than the face.

Arthur Schopenhauer

Style

Take care of the sense and the sounds will take care of themselves.

Lewis Carroll

Subsidy

Everything is much simpler today—instead of solving a problem, you just subsidize it.

Bill Vaughan

Success

To succeed in the world, we do everything we can to appear successful.

Francois, Duc de la Rochefoucauld

Reflections; or, Sentences and Moral Maxims, 56

Success

All you need in this life is ignorance and confidence, and then Success is sure.

Mark Twain

Success

Behind every successful man there's a woman saying "What do you mean you're going to be late for dinner?"

Robert Orben

Success

But I like not these great successes of yours; for I know how jealous are the gods.

Herodotus, Herodotus, trans. A. D. Godley, vol. 2, book 3, paragraph 40, pp. 53, 55 (1928). Excerpt from a letter from Amasis to Polycrates.

Success

Coach to Jesse Owens who wanted to be "The fastest man in the world, the greatest runner."—You must have a dream and a ladder to that dream.

1st rung is DETERMINATION

2nd rung is DEDICATION

3rd rung is DISCIPLINE

4th rung is ATTITUDE

The first three rungs are important, but the fourth rung is vital.

Jesse Owens' Coach

Success

Constant effort and frequent mistakes are the stepping stones to genius.

Elbert Hubbard

Success

Did you ever hear of a man who had striven all his life faithfully and singly toward an objective who had in no measure attained it.

Author Unknown

Success

Even on the most exalted throne in the world we are only sitting on our own bottom.

Michel Eyquem de Montaigne, The Essays of Michel de Montaigne, trans. Jacob Zeitlin, vol. 3, p. 317 (1936). His essays were first published in 1580.The translation of "Et au plus esleve throne du monde, si ne sommes assis que sus nostre cul" varies in other editions.

Success

Everybody likes and respects selfmade men. It is great deal better to be made in that way than not to be made at all.

Oliver Wendell Holmes

Success

Everyone is trying to accomplish something big, but not realizing that life is made up of little things.

Frank A. Clark

Success

Everything is soothed by oil, and this is the reason why divers send out small quantities of it from their mouths, because it smooths every part which is rough.

Pliny the Elder

Natural History, II, 234

Success

Footprints on the sands of time are not made by sitting down.

Author Unknown

Success

Good deeds from good intentions flow; but good intentions only; build for us a place below.

Author Unknown

Success

Great occasions do not make heros or cowards; they only unveil them to the eyes of men. Silently and imperceptibly, as we wake or sleep, we grow strong or weak; and at last some crisis shows us what we have become.

Brian Westcot

Success

He conquers twice who conquers himself in victory.

Publilius Syrus

Success

However things may seem, no evil thing is success and no good thing is failure.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Success

I cannot give you the formula for success, but I can give you the formula for failure—which is: try to please everybody.

Scope

Success

I have climbed to the top of the greasy pole!

Benjamin Disraeli, remark to a friend after being named prime minister.—Sir William Fraser, Disraeli and His Day, 2d ed., p. 52 (1891).

Success

I have found it.

Archimedes

From Vitruvius Pollio, De Architectura, IX, 215

Success

If a man aspires to the highest place, it is no dishonor to him to halt at the second, or even at the third.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

Orator Ad M. Brutum, 4

Success

If you cannot win, make the one ahead of you break the record.

Author Unknown

Success

If you want to launch big ships you have to go where the water is deep.

Author Unknown

Success

If your batting average is high enough, the Big League will find you.

Author Unknown

Success

If, in order to succeed in an enterprise, I was obliged to choose between fifty deer commanded by a lion, and fifty lions commanded by a deer, I should consider myself more certain of success with the first group than with the second.

Saint Vincent de Paul

Success

In the long run men hit only what they aim at. Therefore, though they should fail immediately, they had better aim at something high.

Henry David Thoreau

Success

In truth, prosperity tries the souls even of the wise.

Sallust [Gaius Sallustius Crispus]

The War with Catiline, 11

Success

Is the proposed operation likely to succeed? What might be the consequences of failure? Is it in the realm of practicability in terms of materiel and supplies?

Admiral Chester W. Nimitz.—Life, July 10, 1944, p. 84, describes these as "three favorite rules of thumb which…he has printed on a card he keeps on his desk."

Success

It's serving, striving, through strain and stress. It's doing your noblest—that's success.

Author Unknown

Success

It's the last inch that counts.

Author Unknown

Success

It's when things get rough and you don't quit that success comes.

Author Unknown

Success

Men flourish only for a moment.

Homer

The Odyssey XIX, 328

Success

Men who leave home to set world on fire often come back for more matches.

Confucius

Success

More persons would succeed in small things if they were not troubled with great ambitions.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Success

No age has a monopoly on success. Any age is the right age to start doing!

Author Unknown

Success

No true work since the world began was ever wasted; no true life since the world began has ever failed. Oh, understand those two perverted word, "failure" and "success" and measure them by the eternal, not the earthly, standard. When after thirty obscure, toilsome, unrecorded years in the shop of the village carpenter, one came forth to be pre-eminently the man of sorrows, to wander from city to city in homeless labors, and to expire in lonely agony upon the shameful cross—was that a failure.

F. W. Farrar

Success

Nothing is particularly hard if you divide it into small jobs.

Henry Ford

Success

Only the brave deserve the fair, but only rich, fat, cowardly merchants can afford same.

Chinese Proverb

Success

Only those who risk going too far can possibly find how far they can go.

Author Unknown

Success

Stopping at third base adds nothing to the score.

Author Unknown

Success

Success and suffering are vitally and organically linked. If you succeed without suffering, it is because someone suffered for you; if you suffer without succeeding, it is in order that someone else may succeed after you.

Edward Judson

Success

Success comes in cans, not in can'ts.

Author Unknown

Success

Success has ruined many a man.

Benjamin Franklin

Poor Richard's Almanac

Success

Success in life depends upon staying power. The reason for failure in most cases is lack of perseverance. Men get tired and give up.

J. R. Miller

Success

Success is counted sweetest

By those who ne'er succeed.

Emily Dickinson

Success

Success is failure turned inside out.

Author Unknown

Success

Success is found when preparation meets opportunity.

Sister Brown

Success

Success is full of promise till men get it; and then it is last year's nest, from which the bird has flown.

Henry Ward Beecher

Success

Success is never found on top of the hill if the duties at the foot are neglected.

Eva Arrington

Success

Success is often just an idea away.

Frank Tyger-Ferbes

Success

Success is the necessary misfortune of life, but it is only to the very unfortunate that it comes early.

Anthony Trollope, Orley Farm, chapter 49, pp. 438-39 (1950). First published in 1862.

Success

Success is the one unpardonable sin against one's fellows.

Ambrose Bierce

Success

Success or failure depends more upon attitude than upon capacity…successful men act as though they have accomplished or are enjoying something. Soon it becomes a reality. Act, look, feel successful, conduct yourself accordingly, and you will be amazed at the positive results.

Dr. DuPree Jordan, Jr.

Success

The cause is hidden, but the result is well known.

Ovid [Publius Ovidius Naso]

Metamorphoses, IV, 287

Success

The days come and go like muffled and veiled figures sent from a distant party: but they say nothing, and if we do not use the gifts they bring, they carry them as silently away.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Success

The exclusive worship of the b—-goddess Success [is] our national disease.

William James

Success

The great heart will no more complain of the obstructions that make success hard, than the iron walls of the gun which hinders the shot from scattering.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Success

The great high road of human welfare lies along the highway of steadfast well-doing; and they who are the most persistent, and work in the truest spirit, will invariably be the most successful; success treads on the heels of every right effort.

Samuel Smiles

Success

The largest barrier to success is removing the mattress from one's back in the morning.

Author Unknown

Success

The man with a new idea is a crank—until the idea succeeds.

Mark Twain

Success

The men who succeed best in public life are those who take the risk of standing by their own convictions.

James A. Garfield

Success

The men whom I have seen succeed best in life always have been cheerful and hopeful men; who went about their business with a smile on their faces; and took the changes and chances of this mortal life like men; facing rough and smooth alike as it came.

Charles Kingsley

Success

The road to success is filled with women pushing their husbands along.

Attributed to Lord Thomas R. Dewar.—The Home Book of Quotations, ed. Burton Stevenson, 10th ed., p. 1263 (1967). Unverified.

Success

The secret of success is constancy of purpose.

Benjamin Disraeli, speech at banquet of National Union of Conservative and Constitutional Associations, Crystal Palace, London, June 24, 1872.—Selected Speeches of the Right Honorable the Earl of Beaconsfield, ed. T. E. Kebbel, vol. 2, p. 535 (1882). 1780 If a man can write a better book, preach a better sermon, or make a better mousetrap than his neighbor, though he build his house in the woods, the world will make a beaten path to his door. Attributed to RALPH WALDO EMERSON by Sarah B. Yule, Borrowings, p. 138 (1889).

While this sentence has never been found in Emerson's works, he is believed to have used it in a lecture either at San Francisco or Oakland, California, in 1871. Borrowings was an anthology compiled by women of the First Unitarian Church of Oakland, and Sarah Yule contributed this sentence, which she had copied from an address years before. There has been some controversy because others, including Elbert Hubbard, have claimed authorship. See The Home Book of Quotations, ed. Burton Stevenson, 10th ed., pp. 630, 2275 (1967).

Success

The shortest way to do many things is to do only one thing at a time.

Richard Cecil

Success

The success is the man who runs the corner gas station because that was his dream—that's what he wanted to do.

Earl Nightingale

Success

The success of any great moral enterprise does not depend upon numbers.

William Lloyd Garrison

Success

The successful man can never be guilty; whatever he may have done or will do, he is inviolable.

Pierre Corneille (1606-1684)

Cinna (1640), Act V

Success

There are only two ways of getting on in this world: by one's own industry, or by the weaknesses of others.

Jean de la Bruyere

Success

There are some days when I think I'm going to die from an overdose of satisfaction.

Salvador Dali

Success

There is only one success . . to be able to spend your life in your own way, and not to give others absurd maddening claims upon it.

Christopher Morley, Where the Blue Begins, p. 85 (1922).

Success

There is plenty of room at the top—but no place to sit down.

Author Unknown

Success

They never fail who die in a great cause.

Lord Byron

Success

Those who aim at great deeds must also suffer greatly.

Marcus Licinius Crassus

From Plutarch, Lives, Crassus, 26

Success

To blow and swallow at the same moment is not easy.

Titus Maccius Plautus

Mostellaria, act III, sc. ii, l. 104

Success

To go beyond is as bad as to fall short.

Confucius

Success

Top cats often begin as underdogs.

Bernard Meltzer

Success

We must walk consciously only part way toward our goal, and then leap in the dark to our success.

Author unknown. Attributed to Henry David Thoreau, but not found in his works.

Success

We put up with being surpassed more easily than with being equalled.

A. Vinet

Success

Winning isn't everything, but it beats anything in second place.

Paul Bear Bryant

Success

You can't push something that is going faster than you are.

Author Unknown

Success

You will find the key to success under the alarm clock.

Benjamin Franklin

Suffering

A sad thing is a wolf in the fold, rain on ripe corn, wind in the trees, the anger of Amaryllis.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Elogues, III, 80

Suffering

For a deadly blow let him pay with a deadly blow: it is for him who has done a deed to suffer.

Aeschylus

The Libation Bearers, 312

Suffering

I almost shudder at the thought of alluding to the most fatal example of the abuses of grief which the history of mankind has preserved-the Cross. Consider what calamities that engine of grief has produced!

John Adams

On the Abuses of Grief. Letter to Jefferson, in Jefferson's Works, Vol. VII,

p. 35.

Suffering

I pity the poor in bondage that have none to help them; that is why I am here; not to gratify any personal animosity, revenge, or vindictive spirit. It is my sympathy with the oppressed and the wronged, that are as good as you, and as precious in the sight of God.

John Brown

Quoted by Thoreau, Slavery in Massachusetts, 1859.

Suffering

If you suffer, thank God!—it is a sure sign that you are alive.

Elbert Hubbard

Suffering

Is this a hold thing to see

In a rich and fruitful land,

Babes reduc'd to misery,

Fed with cold and usurous hand?

William Blake

Songs of Experience: Holy Thursday.

Suffering

It is better that ten guilty persons than one innocent suffer.

Sir William Blackstone

Commentaries on the Laws of England, 1765.

Suffering

You have suffered worse things; God will put an end to these also.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aeneid, I, 199

Suicide

After spending some money in his sleep, Hermon the miser was so hopping mad he hanged himself.

Lucilius

Suicide

He who has a why to live can bear almost any how.

Friedrich Nietzsche

Suicide

Man is a prisoner who has no right to open the door of his prison and run away…. A man should wait, and not take his own life until God summons him.

Plato

Dialogues, Phaedo, 62

Suicide

Suicide sometimes proceeds from cowardice, but not always; for cowardice sometimes prevents it; since as many live because they are afraid to die, as die because they are afraid to live.

Charles Caleb Colton (1780-1832)

The Lacon (1829)

Suicide

Suicide was naturally the consistent course dictated by the logical intellect.

William James

Suicide

The thought of suicide is a great consolation; with its help you can get through many a bad night.

Friedrich Nietzsche

Suicide

Too busy with the crowded hour to fear to live or die.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Superiority

Conclusion of Analects-"Without recognizing the ordinances of Heaven, it is impossible to be a superior man."

"The Great mountain must crumble, the strong beam must break; And the wise man wither away like a plant."

"I am a man of Yin and last night I dreamt that I was sitting with offerings before me between two great pillars. No intelligent monarch arises; there is not one in the empire that will make me his master. My time is come to die." And in a few days he died, in silence and disappointment; without prayer, without apprehension.

Confucius

Legge

Superiority

Foul superstition; howsoe'er disguised,

Idol, saint, virgin, prophet, crescent, cross,

For whatsoever symbol thou art prized,

Thou sacerdotal gain, but general loss!

Who from true worship's gold can separate the dross.

Lord Byron

Childe Harold's Pilgrimage, 1809-1817., canto ii.

Superiority

If a superior man dwelt among [barbarians], what rudeness would there be?

Confucius

The Confucian Analects, 9:13, ii

Superiority

The superior man cannot be known in little matters, but he may be entrusted with great concerns. The small man may not be entrusted with great concerns, but he may be known in little matters.

Confucius

The Confucian Analects, 15:33

Superiority

The superior man is satisfied and composed; the mean man is always full of distress.

Confucius

The Confucian Analects, 7:36

Superiority

There are three things which the superior man guards against. In youth…lust. When he is strong…quarrelsomeness. When he is old…covetousness.

Confucius

The Confucian Analects, 17:8

Superiority

We gain nothing by being with such as ourselves; we encourage each other in mediocrity. I am always longing to be with men more excellent than myself.

Charles Lamb

Superiority

[The superior man] acts before he speaks, and afterwards speaks according to his actions.

Confucius

The Confucian Analects, 2:13

Superstition

So urgent on the vulgar is the necessity of believing, that the fall of any system of mythology will probably be succeeded by the introduction of some other mode of superstition.

Edward Gibbon

Superstition

Superstition is a senseless fear of God.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

De natura deorum, 45 B.C.

Superstition

Superstition is the reproach of the Deity.

Francis Bacon

Essays. Of Seditions and Troubles.

Superstition

This is the third time; I hope good luck lies in odd numbers…. There is divinity in odd numbers, either in nativity, chance, or death.

William Shakespeare

The Merry Wives of Windsor, V, i, 2

Superstition

To deny the possibility, nay, actual existence of witchcraft and sorcery is at once flatly to contradict the revealed word of God in various passages of both the Old and New Testament, and the thing itself is a truth to which every nation in the world has in its turn borne testimony, either by example seemingly tested, or by prohibitory laws which at least suppose the possibility of commerce with evil spirits.

Sir William Blackstone

Commentaries on the Laws of England, edition of 1850, p. 59.

Superstition

Witchcraft and Priestcraft, were introduced into this world together, in its non-age; and has gone on, hand in hand together, until about half a century past, when witchcraft began to be discredited….This discovery has depreciated Priestcraft, on the scale of at least fifty per cent per annum…

Ethan Allen

Reason the Only Oracle of Man, first edition, Bennington, Vt.,

1784; Scholars' Facsimiles & Reprints, N.Y.C., 1940. p. 456.

Survival

In the survival of favoured individuals and races, during the constantly-recurring Struggle for Existence, we see a powerful and ever-acting form of Selection…. Thus, from the war of nature, from famine and death, the most exalted object which we are capable of conceiving, namely the production of the higher animals, directly follows.

Charles (Robert) Darwin (1809-1882)

The Origin of Species (1859)

Survival

Some Saian glories in the shield which I left beside a bush, poor blameless weapon, against my will. But I have saved myself—what care I for that shield? Away with it! I'll get another one no worse.

Archiloghus

Fragment 6

Survival

The expression often used by Mr. Herbert Spencer of the Survival of the Fittest is more accurate….

Charles (Robert) Darwin (1809-1882)

The Origin of Species (1859)

Survival

The ultimate value of life depends upon awareness, and the power of contemplation rather than upon mere survival.

Aristotle

Survival

There is no exception to the rule that every organic being naturally increases at so high a rate, that, if not destroyed, the earth would soon be covered by the progeny of a single pair. Even slow-breeding man has doubled in 25 years, and at this rate, in less than a thousand years, there would literally be no standing room for his progeny.

Charles (Robert) Darwin (1809-1882)

The Origin of Species (1859), Ch. 3

Suspicion

Suspicion all our lives shall be stuck full of eyes;

For treason is but trusted like the fox.

William Shakespeare

King Henry IV, I, V, ii, 8

Suspicion

Suspicion always haunts the quilty mind;

The thief doth fear each bush an officer.

William Shakespeare

King Henry VI, III, V, vi, 11

Tact

Mention not a halter in the house of him that was hanged.

George Herbert

Tact

Silence is not always tact, and it is tact that is golden—not silence.

Samuel Butler

Tact

Tact is the ability to describe others as they see themselves.

Abraham Lincoln

Tact

Tact is the art of convincing people that they know more than you do.

Raymond Mortimer

Tact

Tact is the knack of making a point without making an enemy.

Howard W. Newton

Tact

We should be too big to take offense and too noble to give it.

Abraham Lincoln

Talents

Talent without tact is only half talent.

Horace Greeley

Talents

The world is always ready to receive talent with open arms.

Oliver Wendell Holmes

Talents

You will certainly not be able to take the lead in all things yourself, for to one man a god has given deeds of war, and to another the dance, to another the lyre and song, and in another wide-sounding Zeus puts a good mind.

Homer

The Iliad, Xiii, 729

Talking

Talk is cheap—unless you hire a lawyer.

Wayne Mackey

Talking

The less you talk, the more you're listened to.

Abigail Van Buren

Talking

There are braying men in the world as well as braying asses; for what is loud and senseless talking other than a way of braying.

L'Estrange

Taste

Every one to his taste, as the woman said when she kissed her sow.

Francois Rabelais

Taste

Taste is only to be educated by contemplation, not of the tolerably good, but of the truly excellent. I therefore show you only the best works; and when you are grounded in these, you will have a standard for the rest, which you will know how to value, without overrating them.

Johann W. von Goethe

Taxes/Taxation

A government which robs Peter to pay Paul can always depend on the support of Paul.

George Bernard Shaw,

Everybody's Political What's What?,

chapter 30, p. 256 (1944).

Shaw wrote this book "to track down some

of the mistakes that have landed us in a gross

misdistribution of domestic income and two

world wars in twentyfive years" (p. 1).

Taxes/Taxation

Every good citizen . . should be willing to devote a brief time during some one day in the year, when necessary, to the making up of a listing of his income for taxes . to contribute to his Government, not the scriptural tithe, but a small percentage of his net profits.

Representative Cordell Hull, remarks in the House, April 26, 1913, Congressional Record, vol. 50, p. 505.

Taxes/Taxation

If the Government cannot reduce the "terrific" tax burden on the country, I will predict that you will have a depression that will curl your hair, because we are just taking too much money out of this economy that we need to make the jobs that you have to have as time goes on.

George M. Humphrey, secretary of the treasury, at a news conference on January 15, 1957, as reported by The New York Times, January 17, 1957, p. 20. On January 16, President Eisenhower sent to Congress a record peacetime budget of $71.8 billion.

Taxes/Taxation

In the usual progress of things, the necessities of a nation in every stage of its existence will be found at least eel to its resources.

Alexander Hamilton, The Federalist, ed. Benjamin F. Wright, no. 30, p. 234 (1961).

Taxes/Taxation

Mr. Gladstone, then Chancellor of the Exchequer, had interrupted him in a description of his work on electricity to put the impatient inquiry: 'But, after all, what use is it?' Like a flash of lightning came the response: 'Why, sir, there is every probability that you will soon be able to tax it!'

Michael Faraday.—James Kendall, Michael Faraday, Man of Simplicity, Introduction, p. 14 (1955).

Taxes/Taxation

Of all debts men are least willing to pay the taxes. What a satire is this on government! Everywhere they think they get their money's worth, except for these.

Ralph Waldo Emerson, "Politics," Essays: Second Series, in The Complete Writings of Ralph Waldo Emerson, vol. 1, p. 302 (1929).

Taxes/Taxation

The art of taxation consists in so plucking the goose as to obtain the largest possible amount of feathers with the smallest possible amount of hissing.

Attributed to Jean Baptiste Colbert, minister of finance to Louis XIV of France. It has also been attributed to Cardinal Mazarin, under whom Colbert served.—The Home Book of Quotations, ed. Burton Stevenson, 10th ed., p. 2300f, no. 5 (1967).

Taxes/Taxation

The power to tax is not the power to destroy while this Court sits.

Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, dissenting, Panhandle Oil Company v. Mississippi ex rel. Knox, Attorney General, 277 U.S. 223 (1928).

Taxes/Taxation

The power to tax is the power to destroy.

This quotation comes from the words of

Daniel Webster and those of John Marshall in the

Supreme Court case, McCulloch v. Maryland.

Webster, in arguing the case, said:

"An unlimited power to tax involves, necessarily,

a power to destroy"' 17 U.S. 327 (1819).

In his decision, Chief Justice Marshall said:

"That the power of taxing it [the bank]

by the States may be exercised so as to destroy it,

is too obvious to be denied" (p. 427), and

"That the power to tax involves the power

to destroy… [is] not to be denied" (p. 431).

Taxes/Taxation

To please universally was the object of his life; but to tax and to please, no more than to love and to be wise, is not given to men.

Edmund Burke, speech on American taxation, House of Commons, April 19, 1774.—The Writings and Speeches of Edmund Burke, ed. Paul Langford, vol. 2, p. 454 (1981).Burke was referring to the chancellor of the exchequer, Charles Townshend.

Taxes/Taxation

We shall tax and tax, and spend and spend, and elect and elect.

Attributed to Harry L. Hopkins, administrator of the Works Progress Administration.

Although Frank R. Kent mentioned the subject of "spending, taxes, and election" in reference to Hopkins in his column, "The Great Game of Politics" (Baltimore, Maryland, Sun, September 25, 1938, pp. 1, 16) he first attributed "we are going to spend and spend and spend, and tax and tax and tax, and elect and elect and elect" to Hopkins in the Sun, October 14, 1938, p. 15.Joseph Alsop and Robert Kintner in their column, "The Capital Parade" (Washington, D.C., Evening Star, November 9, 1938, p. A-11), elaborated Hopkins's "probably apocryphal" words to: "Now, get this through your head. We're going to spend and spend and spend, and tax and tax and tax, and re-elect and re-elect and re-elect, until you're dead or forgotten."

Arthur Krock, in his column, "In the Nation" (The New York Times, November 10, 1938, p. 26), reported the wording as "we will spend and spend, and tax and tax, and elect and elect." He also repeated this wording in an article in The New York Times, November 13, 1938, sec. 4, p. E-3. A letter by Hopkins denying this attributed quotation and a response by Krock were published in The New York Times, November 24, 1938, p. 26.

Over the years the quotation attributed to Hopkins has evolved into the wording above.

Taxes/Taxation

Give us day by day our Real Taxed Substantial Money bought Bread; deliver from the Holy Ghost whatever cannot be Taxed; for all is debts and Taxes between Caesar and us and one another.

William Blake

Parody on Dr. Thornton's version of the Lord's Prayer, 1827.

Taxes/Taxation

When there is an income tax, the just man will pay more and the unjust less on the same amount of income.

Plato

The Republic, I, 343-D

Teachers/Teaching

A teacher affects eternity. He can never tell where his influence stops.

Henry Adams

Teachers/Teaching

The best teacher is one who suggests rather than dogmatizes, and inspires his listener with the wish to teach himself.

Edward Bulwer-Lytton

Teachers/Teaching

The highest function of the teacher consists not so much in imparting knowledge as in stimulating the pupil in its love and pursuit.

Author Unknown

Teachers/Teaching

The teacher who is attempting to teach without inspiring the pupil with a desire to learn is hammering on cold steel.

Horace Mann

Teachers/Teaching

THE PROPHET

No man can reveal to you aught but that which already lies half asleep in the dawning of your knowledge. The teacher who walks in the shadow of the temple, among his followers, gives not of his wisdom but rather of his faith and his lovingness. If he is indeed wise he does not bid you enter the house of his wisdom, but rather leads you to the threshold of your own mind.

Kahlil Gibran

Teachers/Teaching

A professor can never better distinguish himself in his work than by encouraging a clever pupil, for the true discoverers are among them, as comets amongst the stars.

Carl von Linne

Teachers/Teaching

Always in these matters desiring rather to be taught than to teach.

Gabriel Biel

Expositio Canonis Missae, lectio 53

Teachers/Teaching

Delightful task, to rear the tender thought, to teach the young idea how to shoot, to pour fresh instruction over the mind, to breathe the enlivening spirit, and to fix the generous purpose in the growing heart.

James Thompson

Teachers/Teaching

He died dictating his last work (a translation of St John), for said he, "I would not that my pupils should read what is false and after my death should labour in vain." His pupil Cuthbert said—'Dearest master, there is only one sentence left to write.' "Write it quickly." 'It is finished now.' "Thou hast well said 'All is finished now.' Glory to Thee, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost."

The Venerable Bede

Green

Teachers/Teaching

He who can, does. He who cannot, teaches.

George Bernard Shaw,

"Maxims for Revolutionists," appendix 2 to

Man and Superman, in his Selected Plays

with Prefaces, vol. 3, p. 733 (1948).

Teachers/Teaching

Scratch the green rind of a sapling or wantonly twist it in the soil, and a scarred or crooked oak will tell of the act for centuries to come. So it is with the teachings of youth, which make impressions on the mind and heart that are to last forever. The highest function of the teacher consists not so much in imparting knowledge as in stimulating the pupil in its love and pursuit. To know how to suggest is the art of teaching.

Henri Amiel

Teachers/Teaching

The aim of forensic oratory is to teach, to delight, to move.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

De Potimo Genere Oratorum, 16

Teachers/Teaching

The great teacher defends his pupils against his own personal influence. He inspires self distrust. He guides their eyes from him to the spirit that quickens him. He will have no disciple.

Bronson Alcott

Teachers/Teaching

THE TEACHER

The teacher looked ahead with misgivings but with hope.

Would the way be smooth or rough?

Would it end in success or failure?"

The teacher stood and looked and wondered.

And a voice said, answering: "There will be no end."

And the teacher smiled and said:

"I know it will end. I may teach one year, two years,

Or possibly many more years

But this I know: Someday it will end."

And the teacher went forward to teach.

Those who gathered around the teacher had need to learn.

And the teacher looked into their eyes and desired to fill their needs

And taught them with mind and heart and voice—

A mind filled with knowledge from continued study,

A voice speaking this knowledge in wisdom,

And a heart filling the mind and voice with

Conviction and power.

The teacher learned from mistakes made

And received happiness from lessons taught with inspiration.

Then life changed, and the teacher could not teach.

"It has ended," said the teacher, continuing on the road

Of life. "This is really the end of my teaching."

And the teacher believed this until a person of good position

Stood and said: "I am here because this teacher

Taught me thus."

And the teacher was happy and said, "It was not the end back there—

This is the end.

And it could not have ended better.

I am glad I taught in love and faith and prayer."

Time passed; and the teacher grew old and slept and awakened and

Stood before the Maker.

And the teacher looked and was surprised, for there

Stood also those who had been taught.

And He before whom they stood questioned them and then

Sent them to a high place.

And the teacher said, "It was not the end back there—

This is the end. And it is a more glorious end than

I ever could have hoped for."

And joy filled the teacher's heart, as a great celestial light.

And the teacher looked ahead of those who had been taught

And saw the continued steps of progress and work before each one

And then said: "This is not the end—there is no end.

I have just realized, there is no end to my teachings!"

And a voice spoke: "When first you were called to teach,

I tried to warn you

Of your great responsibility.

But you can be thankful you taught well,

In humility, in faith, in testimony—

For there is no end to your teachings."

Goldie B. Despain

Teachers/Teaching

The true aim of everyone who aspires to be a teacher should be, not to impart his own opinions, but to kindle minds.

Henri Amiel

Teachers/Teaching

To know how to suggest is the art of teaching.

Henri Amiel

Teachers/Teaching

Who dares to teach must never cease to learn.

John Cotton Dana. In 1912 Dana, a Newark, New Jersey, librarian, was asked to supply a Latin quotation suitable for inscription on a new building at Newark State College (now Kean College of New Jersey), Union, New Jersey. Unable to find an appropriate quotation, Dana composed what became the college motto.—The New York Times Book Review, March 5, 1967, p. 55.

Teachers/Teaching

He is either dead or teaching school.

Zenobius

Teachers/Teaching

I am indebted to my Father for living, but to my teacher for living well.

Alexander the Great

Teachers/Teaching

Lincoln's stepmother probably did not teach him very much, but she kindled his mind and encouraged him. He did the work and put in the hours on his own.

Author Unknown

Teachers/Teaching

Man is the only one that knows nothing, that can learn nothing without being taught. He can neither speak nor walk nor eat, and in short he can do nothing at the prompting of nature only, but weep.

Pliny the Elder

Natural History, VII, 4

Teachers/Teaching

Pescem natare doces.

You're teaching a fish to swim.

Anonymous Latin Saying

Teachers/Teaching

Successful teachers are effective in spite of the psychological theories they suffer under.

Educational Proverb

Teachers/Teaching

To teach is to learn.

Japanese Proverb

Teachers/Teaching

To waken interest and kindle enthusiasm is the sure way to teach easily and successfully.

Tyron Edwards

Television

I invite you to sit down in front of your television set when your station goes on the air…and keep your eyes glued to that set until the station signs off. I can assure you that you will observe a vast wasteland.

Newton N. Minow, chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, speech before the National Association of Broadcasters, Washington, D.C., May 9, 1961.—Minow, Equal Time, p. 52 (1964).

Television

Those who say they give the public what it wants begin by underestimating public taste, and end by debauching it.

Pilkington Report, quoting an unknown source. Great Britain, Committee on Broadcasting, 1960, Report (Cmnd. 1753), chapter 3, p. 17 (1962).

Television

Unless and until there is unmistakable proof to the contrary, the presumption must be that television is and will be a main factor in influencing the values and moral standards of our society…. Television does not, and cannot, merely reflect the moral standards of society. It must affect them, either by changing or by reinforcing them.

Pilkington Report. Great Britain, Committee on Broadcasting, 1960, Report (Cmnd. 1753), chapter 3, pp. 15, 19 (1962).

Temper

When you're in the right, you can afford to keep your temper. When in the wrong, you can't afford to lose it.

Author Unknown

Temperance

Abstinence is as easy to me as temperance would be difficult.

Samuel Johnson

Temperance

If thou wouldst make the best advantage of the muses, either by reading to benefit thyself, or by writing to benefit others, keep a peaceful soul in a temperate body. A full belly makes a dull brain, and a turbulent spirit a distracted judgement. The muses starve in a cook's shop and a lawyer's study.

Quarles

Temperance

Next to temperance, a quiet conscience, a cheerful mind and active habits, I place early rising as a means of health and happiness.

Timothy Flint

Temperance

Since the creation of the world there has been no tyrant like Intemperance, and no slaves so cruelly treated as his.

William Lloyd Garrison

Temptation

Ay me, how many perils do enfold

The righteous man, to make him daily fall.

Edmund Spenser

The Faerie Queene, I, 8, 1

Temptation

In theory there is nothing to hinder our following what we are taught; but in life there are many things to draw us aside.

Epictetus

Discourses, I, 26

Temptation

The only way to get rid of temptation is to yield to it….I can resist everything but temptation.

Oscar Wilde

Temptation

The surest protection against temptation is cowardice.

Mark Twain

Temptation

To cease smoking is the easiest thing I ever did. I ought to know because I've done it a thousand times.

Mark Twain

Temptation

When the stomach is full, it is easy to talk of fasting.

St. Jerome

Letter, 58

Temptation

If you don't want to deal with the devil, don't go in his shop. Keep on the Lord's side of the fence.

Author Unknown

Ten Commandments

Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.

Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.

Honor thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

Thou shalt not kill.

Thou shalt not commit adultery.

Thou shalt not steal.

Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.

Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor anything that is thy neighbor's.

The Bible, Exodus 20:3-17. This appears with minor differences in Deuteronomy 5:7-21.

Ten Commandments

Thou shalt have one God only; who

Would be at the expense of two?

No graven images may be

Worshipped, except the currency:

Swear not at all; for for thy curse

Thine enemy is none the worse:

At church on Sunday to attend

Will serve to keep the world thy friend:

Honour thy parents; that is, all

From whom advancement may befall:

Thou shalt not kill; but needst not strive

Officiously to keep alive:

Do not adultery commit;

Advantage rarely comes of it:

Thou shalt not steal; an empty feat,

When it's so lucrative to cheat:

Bear not false witness: let the lie

Have time on its own wings to fly:

Thou shalt not covet; but tradition

Approves all forms of competition.

The sum of all is, thou shalt love,

If any body, God above:

At any rate shall never labour

More than thyself to love thy neighbour.

Arthur Hugh Clough, "The Latest Decalogue," The Poems of Arthur Hugh Clough, ed. A. L. P Norrington, pp. 60-61 (1968).

Testimony

Any fact is better established by two or three good testimonies than by a thousand arguments.

Nathaniel Emmons

Testimony

Testimony is the conversion of belief into faith, faith into knowledge, and knowledge into activity.

A. William Lane

Thankfulness

Twas a glorious game from the opening bell—Good plays, bad plays, thrills pell mell. The speed of it all burned my tears away—But I thank God that he let me play.

William F. Kirk

Thanksgiving

No duty is more urgent than that of returning thanks.

St. Ambrose

Thanksgiving

True thanksgiving means that we need to thank God for what He has done for us, and not to tell Him what we have done for Him.

George R. Hendrick

Beatitudes

Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.

Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.

Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven; for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

The Bible, Matthew 5:3-12. These verses are called the Beatitudes. Some scholars do not include verse 12 because it does not begin with the word blessed.

Bible

If we abide by the principles taught by the Bible, our country will go on prospering.

Daniel Webster

Bible

It ain't those parts of the Bible that I can't understand that bother me, it is the parts that I do understand.

Mark Twain

Bible

It is a curious thing that God learned Greek when he wished to turn author—and that he did not learn it better.

Friedrich Nietzsche

Bible

Nobody ever outgrows Scripture; the book widens and deepens with our years.

Charles H. Spurgeon

Bible

Scriptures, n. The sacred books of our holy religion, as distinguished from the false and profane writings on which all other faiths are based.

Ambrose Bierce

Bible

The Bible is God's chart for you to steer by, to keep you from the bottom of the sea, and to show you where the harbor is, and how to reach it without running on rocks or bars.

Henry Ward Beecher

Bible

The dogma of the infallibility of the Bible is no more self-evident than is that of the infallibility of the popes.

Thomas Henry Huxley

Bible

The scriptures teach us the best way of living, the noblest way of suffering, and the most comfortable way of dying.

John Flavel

Bible

These Gospels (the first four of the New Testament) are spurious, and were written in the Second century.

Ferdinand Christian Baur

Bible

Whenever we read the obscene stories, the voluptuous debaucheries, the cruel and tortuous executions, the unrelenting vindictiveness with which more than half the Bible is filled, it would be more consistent that we call it the word of a demon than the word of God. It is a history of wickedness that has served to corrupt and brutalize mankind.

Thomas Paine

The Flag

"Shoot if you must, this old grey head,

But spare your country's flag," she said.

John Greenleaf Whittier

The Flag

And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave

O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

Francis Scott Key

The Flag

I name thee Old Glory.

Captain William Driver

The Flag

If any one attempts to haul down the American flag, shoot him on the spot.

John A. Dix

The Flag

Let us raise a standard to which the wise and honest can repair.

George Washington

The Flag

When the flag is unfurled, all reason is in the trumpet.

Ukrainian Proverb

The Media

If newspapers are useful in overthrowing tyrants, it is only to establish a tyranny of their own.

James Fenimore Cooper

The Media

Journalism is literature in a hurry.

Matthew Arnold

The Media

Newspapers always excite curiosity. No one ever lays one down without a feeling of disappointment.

Charles Lamb

The Media

The old nobility would have survived if they had known enough to become masters of printing materials.

Napoleon Bonaparte

The Media

The only authors whom I acknowledge as American are the journalists. They, indeed, are not great writers, but they speak the language of their countrymen, and make themselves heard by them.

Alexis de Tocqueville

The Media

The only newspapers that can be bought are the ones not worth buying.

Lord Liverpool

Presidents/Presidency

Each generation…has a right to choose for itself the form of government it believes most promotive of its own happiness.

Thomas Jefferson

Presidents/Presidency

I have been told I was on the road to hell, but I had no idea it was just a mile down the road with a Dome on it.

Abraham Lincoln

Presidents/Presidency

I know of no safe depository of the ultimate powers of the society but the people themselves.

Thomas Jefferson

Presidents/Presidency

If you are as happy, my dear sir, on entering this house as I am in leaving it and returning home, you are the happiest man in this country.

James Buchanan

to Abraham Lincoln

Presidents/Presidency

No man will ever bring out the Presidency the reputation which carries him into it.

Thomas Jefferson

Presidents/Presidency

The basis of our political systems is the right of the people to make and to alter their constitutions of government.

George Washington

Presidents/Presidency

The destruction of our State governments or the annihilation of their control over the local concerns of the people would lead directly to revolution and anarchy, and finally to despotism and military domination….But of equal, and indeed, of incalculable importance is the union of these States, and the sacred duty of all to contribute to its preservation by a liberal support of the general government in the exercise of its just powers.

Andrew Jackson

Presidents/Presidency

This country, with its institutions, belongs to the people who inhabit it. Whenever they shall grow weary of the existing Government, they can exercise their constitutional right of amending it, or their revolutionary right to dismember or overthrow it.

Abraham Lincoln

Presidents/Presidency

To myself, personally, it brings nothing but increasing drudgery and daily loss of friends.

Thomas Jefferson

Presidents/Presidency

When a man has cast his longing eye on offices, rottenness begins in his conduct.

Thomas Jefferson

Presidents/Presidency

You are apprehensive of monarchy; I, of aristocracy. I would therefore have given more power to the President and less to the Senate.

John Adams

State

A great democracy must be progressive or it will soon cease to be great or a democracy.

Theodore Roosevelt

State

Aggressive fighting for the right is the noblest sport the world affords.

Theodore Roosevelt

State

If I must choose between righteousness and peace I choose righteousness.

Theodore Roosevelt

State

In popular government results worth while can only be achieved by men who combine worthy ideals with practical good sense.

Theodore Roosevelt

State

Ours is a government of liberty by, through, and under the law.

Theodore Roosevelt

Vice-Presidents/Vice-Presidency

My country has contrived for me the most insignificant office that ever the invention of man contrived or his imagination conceived.

John Adams

Theater

Actors are the only honest hypocrites.

William Hazlitt

Theater

An actor is a sculptor who carves in snow.

Edwin Booth

Theory

It is a condition which confronts us—not a theory.

President Grover Cleveland, third annual message to Congress, December 6, 1887.—The Writings and Speeches of Grover Cleveland, ed. George F. Parker, p. 86 (1892).He was referring to the tariff.

Theory

Throw theory into the fire; it only spoils life.

Mikhail A. Bakunin

Letter to sisters, November 4, 1842.

Theory

We maintain on the contrary that all former moral theories are the product, in the last analysis, of the economic state which society had reached at that particular epoch. And as society has hitherto moved in class antagonisms, morality was always a class morality; it has either justified the domination and interests of the ruling class, or, as soon as the oppressed class has become powerful enough, it has represented the revolt against this domination and the future interests of the oppressed.

Friedrich Engels (1820-1895)

Anti-Duhring (1878), Pt. I

Theory

Whenever a true theory appears, it will be its own evidence. Its test is that it will explain all phenomena. Now many are thought not only unexplained but unexplainable: as language, sleep, madness, dreams, beasts, sex.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Essays: Second Series (1844), "Nature" (1844)

Thievery

A thief passes for a gentleman, when stealing has made him rich.

Ancient proverb

Thievery

The robb'd that smiles steals something from the thief.

William Shakespeare

Othello, I, iii, 208

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

Every event that a man would master must be mounted on the run, and no man ever caught the reins of a thought except as it galloped past him.

Oliver Wendell Holmes

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

Four things a man must learn to do

If he would make his record true:

To think, without confusion, clearly;

To act, from honest motives, purely;

To love his fellow men sincerely,

To trust in God and heaven securely.

Henry Van Dyke

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

In the scale of destinies, brawn will never weigh so much as brain.

James Russell Lowell

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

Man's mind stretched to a new idea never goes back to its original dimensions.

Oliver Wendell Holmes

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

Men love to wonder and that is the seed of science.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

The best part of human language, properly so called, is derived from reflection on the acts of the mind itself.

Samuel Coleridge

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

The Lord gave us two ends to use. One to think with and one to sit with. The war depends on which one we use, heads we win, tails we lose.

Author Unknown

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

Think wrongly if you please, but in all cases, think for yourself.

Gotthold E. Lessing

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

Thinking is the hardest work there is, which is the probable reason so few engage in it.

Henry Ford

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

Thought takes a man out of servitude into freedom.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

You live with your thoughts—so be careful what they are.

Eva Arrington

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

The secret thoughts of a man run over all things, holy, profane, clean, obscene, grave, and light, without shame or blame.

Thomas Hobbes

Leviathan, I, 8

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

All by myself, wrapped in my thoughts.

And building castles in Spain and in France.

Charles D'Orleans

Rondeaux, 109

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

An ounce of logical thought is worth more than a ton of activity.

Louis A. Allen

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

Besides, why should we be cowed by the name of action? 'Tis a trick of the senses,—no more. We know that the ancestor of every action is a thought…. To think is to act.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Essays: First Series (1841), "Spiritual Laws"

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

Except our own thoughts, there is nothing absolutely in our power.

René Descartes (1596-1650)

A Discourse on Method (1637), Part III

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways.

The Bible (Isaiah 55:8)

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

Half our mistakes in life arise from feeling where we ought to think, and thinking where we ought to feel.

John C. Collins

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

He that will have his son have a respect for him and his orders, must himself have a great reverence for his son.

John Locke

Some Thoughts on Education, 65

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

I thought it working for a dead horse, because I am paid beforehand.

Miguel de Cervantes

Don Quixote, pt. II, IV, 71, 917

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

If a man empties his purse into his head, no one can take it from him.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

If I thought my answer were to one who would ever return to the world, this flame should stay without another movement; but since none ever returned alive from this depth, if what I hear is true, I answer thee without fear of infamy.

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy, Canto XXVII, 60

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

It is of itself that the divine thought thinks (since it is the most excellent of things), and its thinking is a thinking on thinking.

Aristotle

Metaphysics, XII, 9

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

No brain is stronger than its weakest think.

Thomas L. Masson, Laughs, p. 167 (1926).This quotation appears as "The brain is as strong as its weakest think," in Eleanor Doan, The Speaker's Sourcebook, p. 263 (1960) with no source acknowledged, and is repeated in A. K. Adams, The Home Book of Humorous Quotations, p. 238 (1969).

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

Some labor with their minds and some labor with their physical strength. Those who labor with their minds govern others, those who labor with their strength are governed by others.

Mencius

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

The basic thought underlying the [Communist] Manifesto is as follows: The method of production and the organization of social life inevitably arising therefrom constitute in every historical epoch the foundation upon which is built the political and intellectual history of that epoch.

Friedrich Engels (1820-1895)

The Communist Manifesto, Preface, German edition of 1883

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

The fatal tendency of mankind to leave off thinking about a thing when it is no longer doubtful, is the cause of half their errors.

John Stuart Mill

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

The no-mind not-thinks no-thoughts about no-things.

Buddha

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

The saying is true, "The empty vessel makes the greatest sound."

William Shakespeare

King Henry V, IV, iv, 72

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

There is a strange charm in the thoughts of a good legacy, or the hopes of an estate, which wondrously alleviates the sorrow that men would otherwise feel for the death of friends.

Miguel de Cervantes

Don Quixote, pt. II, IV, 74, 934

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

There is no expedient to which a man will not resort to avoid the real labor of thinking.

Sir Joshua Reynolds

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

They talk most who have the least to say.

Matthew Prior

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

Thought him still speaking, still stood fix'd to hear.

John Milton

Paradise Lost, VIII, 1

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

Thought makes the whole dignity of man; therefore endeavor to think well, that is the only morality.

Blaise Pascal

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

To him whose elastic and vigorous thought keeps pace with the sun, the day is a perpetual morning.

Henry David Thoreau, Walden, chapter 2, pp. 116-17 (1966). Originally published in 1854.

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

To me the meanest flower that blows can give

Thoughts that do often lie too deep for tears.

William Wordsworth

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

Who dares not speak his free thoughts is a slave.

Euripides (485-406 B.C.)

Quoted in Noyes, Views of Religion

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

Write down the thoughts of the moment. Those that come unsought for are commonly the most valuable.

Francis Bacon

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

A fat paunch never breeds fine thoughts.

St. Jerome

Letter, 52

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

And as he, who with laboring breath has escaped from the deep to the shore, turns to the perilous waters and gazes.

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy. Inferno, canto I, 22

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

High thoughts must have high language.

Aristophanes

Frogs, 1058

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

I call a fig a fig, a spade a spade.

Menander

Unidentified fragment 545

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

I do not know whether I was then a man dreaming I was a butterfly, or whether I am now a butterfly dreaming I am a man.

Chuang Tzu

On Leveling All Things

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

In the morning, when thou art sluggish at rousing thee, let this thought be present: "I am rising to a man's work."

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

Meditations, V, 1

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

It is the rare fortune of these days that a man may think what he likes and say what he thinks.

Caius Cornelius Tacitus

Histories, I, 1

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

Perfect emancipation is effected only when the mind is permitted to form, to express, and to employ its own convictions of truth on all subjects, as it chooses.

Henry Ward Beecher

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

Seek ye first the good things of the mind, and the rest will either be supplied or its loss will not be felt.

Francis Bacon

The Praise of Knowledge.

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

The universe is change; our life is what our thoughts make it.

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

Meditations, IV, 3

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

They are never alone that are accompanied with noble thoughts.

Sir Philip Sidney

The Arcadia, I

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

What sweet thoughts, what longing led them to the woeful pass.

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy, Canto V, 113

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

All that is is the result of what we have thought.

Suttapitaka

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

Do not think that what your thoughts dwell upon is of no matter. Your thoughts are making you.

Bishop Steere

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

Each thought is a nail that is driven

In structures that cannot decay;

And the mansion at last will be given

To us as we build it each day.

George Eliot

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

Good thoughts bear good fruit, bad thoughts bear bad fruits and man is his own gardener.

James Allen

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

No man can ever be greater than his loftiest thoughts.

Author Unknown

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

The contemplation of celestial things will make a man speak and think more sublimely and magnificently when he descends to human affairs.

Cicero

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

The difference between a neurotic, a psychotic, and a psychiatrist. The neurotic builds castles in the sky, the psychotic lives in them and the psychiatrist collects the rent.

Author Unknown

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

The mind, like the dyer's hand, is colored by what it holds.

Author Unknown

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

Think then act safely.

Author Unknown

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

To be free from evil thoughts is God's best gift.

Aeschylus

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

We are ashamed of our thoughts and often see them brought forth by others.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Thought/Thoughts/Thinking

What sweet thoughts, what longing led them to the woeful pass.

Dante

Threats

They that are loudest in their threats are the weakest in the execution of them.—It is probable that he who is killed by lightning hears no noise; but the thunder-clap which follows, and which most alarms the ignorant, is the surest proof of their safety.

Colton

Three-Mile Limit

The character of our coasts, remarkable in considerable parts of it for admitting no vessels of size to pass near the shores, would entitle us, in reason, to as broad a margin of protected navigation, as any nation whatever. Not proposing, however, at this time, and without a respectful and friendly communication with the Powers interested in this navigation, to fix on a distance to which we may ultimately insist on the right of protection, the President gives instructions to the officers, acting under this authority, to consider those heretofore given them as restrained for the present to the distance of one sea-league, or three geographical miles from the sea-shore. This distance can admit of no opposition as it is recognized by treaties between some of the Powers with whom we are connected in commerce and navigation, and is as little or less than is claimed by any of them on their own coasts.

Thomas Jefferson, secretary of state, letter to the French Minister, Edmond Charles Genet, November 8, 1793.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Paul L. Ford, vol. 6, pp. 440-41 (1895).

Thrift

A little in one's own pocket is better than much in another man's purse. 'Tis good to keep a nest egg. Every little makes a mickle.

Cervantes

Thrift

Believe me when I tell you that thrift of time will repay you in after life with a usury of profit beyond your most sanguine dreams; and that the waste of it will make you dwindle; alike in intellectual and in moral stature; beyond your darkest reckonings.

Gladstone

Thrift

For age and want, save while you may;

No morning sun lasts a whole day.

Benjamin Franklin

Thrift

If you know how to spend less than you get, you have the philosopher's stone.

Benjamin Franklin

Thrift

If you would be wealthy, think of saving as well as of getting; the Indies have not made Spain rich, because her outgoes are greater than her incomes.

Benjamin Franklin

Thrift

Let us all be happy and live within our means, even if we have to borrer the money to do it with.

Charles Browne

Thrift

So much for industry, my friends, and attention to one's own business; but to these we must add frugality if we would make our industry more certainly successful. A man may, if he knows not how to save as he gets, keep his nose all his life to the grindstone, and die not worth a groat at last.

Benjamin Franklin

Thrift

What maintains one vice would bring up two children. Remember; many a little makes a mickle; and further; beware of little expenses. A small leak will sink a great ship.

Benjamin Franklin

Thrift

Youth is the time of getting, middle age of improving, and old age of spending; a negligent youth is usually attended by an ignorant middle age, and both by an empty old age. He that hath nothing to feed on but vanity and lies must needs lie down in the bed of sorrow.

Anne Bradstreet

Time

To every thing there is a season, and time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted;

A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; A time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; A time to get, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away; A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace.

The Bible, Ecclesiastes 3:1-8.

Time

"The time has come," the Walrus said,

"To talk of many things:

Of shoes—and ships—and sealing-wax—Of cabbages—and kings—And why the sea is boiling hot—And whether pigs have wings."

Lewis Carroll (Charles L. Dodgson), "The Walrus and the Carpenter," stanza 11, Through the Looking-Glass, chapter 4.—Logical Nonsense: The Works of Lewis Carroll, ed. Philip C. Blackburn and Lionel White, p. 188 (1934). First published in 1871.

Time

Time is like a fashionable host,

That slightly shakes his parting guest by the hand,

And with his arms outstretch'd, as he would fly,

Grasps in the corner: welcome ever smiles,

And farewell goes out sighing.

William Shakespeare

Troilus and Cressida, III, iii, 168

Time

The end crowns all,

And that old common arbitrator,

Time,

Will one day end it.

William Shakespeare

Troilus and Cressida, IV, v, 223

Time

A lost inch of gold may be found, a lost inch of time, never.

Confucius

Time

Alas, Postumus, Postumus, the fleeting years slip by.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Odes, II, xiv, 1

Time

An inch of time on the sundial is worth more than a foot of jade.

Confucius

Time

And the plea that this or that man has no time for culture, will vanish as soon as we desire culture so much that we begin to examine seriously into our present use of time.

Matthew Arnold

Time

Friends, I have lost a day.

Titus Vespasianus

From Suetonius, Titus, sec. 8

Time

Give me today, and take tomorrow.

Quoted, and condemned, by St. Chrysostom

Time

Guard your spare moments. They are like uncut diamonds. Discard them and their value will never be known. Improve them and they will become the brightest gems in a useful life.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Time

Hangs in the uncertain balance of proud time.

Robert Greene

Friar Bacon and Friar Bungay, act III

Time

He was not of an age but for all time.

Ben Jonson

To the Memory of My Beloved, the Author Mr. William Shakespeare

Time

His golden locks time hath to silver turned;

O time too swift, O swiftness never ceasing!

he youth 'gainst time and age hat ever spurned,

But spurned in vain; youth waneth by increasing.

George Peele

Polyhymnia. The Aged Man-at-Arms, st. 1

Time

How many times have you heard this statement, 'I haven't time.' How many times have we made it ourselves? 'Oh, I wish I had time.' Time for what? Time to work in the Church, to serve in our communities and time to improve our minds. Think again of these twenty-four hours that are given to us.

John Longden

Time

I am ready at any time. Do not keep me waiting.

John Brown

Last words.

Time

I cannot afford to waste my time making money.

(Jean) Louis (Rodolphe) Agassiz

Time

I have only just a minute,

Only sixty seconds in it,

Forced upon me—can't refuse it,

Didn't seek it, didn't choose it,

But it's up to me to use it.

I must suffer if I lose it,

Give account if I abuse it,

Just a tiny little minute—

But Eternity is in it.

Christine Warren

Time

If time be of all things the most precious, wasting time must be the greatest prodigality.

Benjamin Franklin

Time

If you can look into the seeds of time,

And say which grain will grow and which will not,

Speak.

William Shakespeare

Macbeth, I, iii, 58

Time

In its [knowledge's] light, we must think and act not only for the moment but for our time. I am reminded of the great French Marshal Lyautey, who once asked his gardener to plant a tree. The gardener objected that the tree was slow-growing and would not reach maturity for a hundred years. The Marshal replied, "In that case, there is no time to lose, plant it this afternoon."

President John F. Kennedy, address at the University of California, Berkeley, California, March 23, 1962.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: John F. Kennedy, 1962, p. 266. Kennedy used this story a number of times. The attribution to Marshal Lyautey is unverified.

Time

In time the savage bull doth bear the yoke.

William Shakespeare

Much Ado About Nothing, I, i, 271

Time

It takes less time to do a thing right than to explain why you did it wrong.

Author Unknown

Time

Let each day be your masterpiece.

Author Unknown

Time

Let each man pass his days in that wherein his skill is greatest.

Sextus Aurelius Propertius

Elegies, II, i, 46

Time

Let us then up and be doing, and doing to that purpose; so by diligence shall we do more with less perplexity. Sloth makes all things difficult, but industry all easy.

Benjamin Franklin

Time

Lost wealth may be regained by industry, and economy, lost knowledge by study, lost health by temperance and medicine, but lost time is gone forever.

Horace Mann

Time

LOST. Two golden hours somewhere between sunrise and sunset. Both are set with 60 diamond minutes. No reward is offered. They are gone forever.

Horace Mann

Time

May it live and last for more than one century.

Gaius Valerius Catullus

Carmina, I, 10

Time

Men have died from time to time, and worms have eaten them, but not for love.

William Shakespeare

As You Like It, IV, i, 110

Time

Methinks I see the wanton hours flee,

And as they pass, turn back and laugh at me.

George Villiers

Time

Misspending a man's time is a kind of self homicide.

George Savile

Time

More haste, less speed.

Augustus Caesar

From Suetonius, Augustus, 25

Time

No great thing is created suddenly.

Epictetus

Time

Nought endures but change.

Ludwig Boerne

Address, December 2, 1825.

Time

O God! O God! that it were possible

To undo things done; to call back yesterday!

That Time could turn up his swift sandy glass,

To untell the days, and to redeem these hours.

Thomas Heywood

A Woman Killed with Kindness, IV, 6

Time

Of a surety at the Day of Judgment it will be demanded of us, not what we have read, but what we have done; not how well we have spoken, but how holily we have lived. In all that thou doest, remember the end, and how thou wilt stand before a strict judge, from whom nothing is hid, who is not bribed with gifts, not accepteth excuses, but will judge righteous judgment.

Thomas A. Kempis

Time

On the wings of Time grief flies away.

Jean de la Fontaine

Fables, bk. VI, fable 21

Time

One always has time enough, if one will apply it well.

(Man hat immer Zeit genug, wenn man sie gut anwenden will.)

Johann Wolfgang Von Goethe, The Autobiography of Johann Wolfgang Von Goethe, trans. John Oxenford, vol. 2, book 10, p. 16 (1974).

Time

Our days pass by, and are scored against us.

Martial [Marcus Valerius Martialis]

Epigrams, V, 20

Time

Out of the fragments of time that most of us waste—some have learned languages, have written books, have become learned.

Author Unknown

Time

Philosophers have explained space. They have not explained time. It is the inexplicable raw material of everything. With it, all is possible; without it, nothing. The supply of time is truly a daily miracle….You wake up in the morning, and…your purse is magically filled with twenty-four hours….It is yours. It is the most precious of possessions….And no one receives either more or less than you receive….Moreover, you cannot draw on the future….You can only waste the passing moment. You cannot waste tomorrow; it is kept for you. You cannot waste the next hour; it is kept for you….You have to live on this twenty-four hours of daily time. Out of it you have to spin health, pleasure, money, content, respect, and the evolution of your immortal soul. Its right use, its most effective use, is a matter of highest urgency….All depends on that.

Arnold Bennett

Time

Pythagoras, when he was asked what time was, answered that it was the soul of this world.

Plutarch

Morals. Platonic Questions

Time

JUST FOR TODAY

Just for today I will try to live through this day only, and not tackle my whole life problem at once. I can do something for twelve hours that would appall me if I felt that I had to keep it up for a lifetime.

Just for today I will be happy. This assumes to be true what Abraham Lincoln said, that, "Most folks are as happy as they make up their minds to be."

Just for today I will adjust myself to what is, and not try to adjust everything to my own desires. I will take my luck as it comes and fit myself to it.

Just for today I will try to strengthen my mind. I will study. I will learn something useful. I will not be a mental loafer. I will read something that requires effort, thought and concentration.

Just for today I will exercise my soul in three ways: I will do somebody a good turn and not get found out; if anybody knows of it, it will not count. I will do at least two things I don't want to do—just for exercise. I will not show anyone that my feelings are hurt; they may be hurt, but today I will not show it.

Just for today I will be agreeable. I will look as well as I can, dress becomingly, talk low, act courteously, criticize not one bit, not find fault with anything, and not try to improve or regulate anybody except myself.

Just for today I will have a program. I may not follow it exactly, but I will have it. I will save myself from two pests: hurry and indecision.

Just for today I will have a quiet half hour all by myself and relax. During this half hour, I will try and get a better perspective of my life.

Just for today I will be unafraid. Especially I will not be afraid to enjoy what is beautiful, and to believe that as I give to the world, so the world will give to me.

Author Unknown

Time

Remember that time is money.

Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790)

Advice to a Young Tradesman (1748)

Time

Remember this hour, this day is the most important hour and day in this lifetime. The past cannot be altered but this time determines eternity.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Time

Resist beginnings; the prescription comes too late when the disease has gained strength by long delays.

Ovid [Publius Ovidius Naso]

Remedia Amoris, 91

Time

Six hours in sleep, in law's grave study six,

Four spend in prayer, the rest on Nature fix.

Sir Edward Coke

Translation quoted by Coke; from The Pandects

(Digests of Roman Civil Law, sixth century). De in Ius Vocando

Time

Spending time in the theaters produces fornication, intemperance, and every kind of impurity.

St. Joannes Chrysostomus (St. John Chrysostom) (345?-407)

Homilies (c. 388)

Time

Tempora mutantur et homines deteriorantur.

Times change and men deteriorate.

Gesta Romanorum ("Deeds of the Romans")

(13th or 14th century A.D.)

Time

That old bald cheater, Time.

Ben Jonson

The Poetaster, I, 1

Time

The flowers fade; the heart withers; man grows old and dies; the world lies down in the sepulchre of ages; but time writes no wrinkles on the brow of eternity.

Bishop Heber

Time

The flowers withered,

Their color faded away,

While meaninglessly

I spent my days in the world

And the long rains were falling.

Ono No Komachi

Kokinshu

Time

The moving finger writes, and having writ moves on, nor all thy Piety nor wit shall lure it back to cancel half a line, nor all thy tears wash out a word of it.

Omar Khayyam

Time

The night of time far surpasseth the day, and who knows when was the equinox?

Sir Thomas Browne

Urn-Burial; or Hydriotaphia, 5

Time

The opera ain't over till the fat lady sings.

Dan Cook, sports broadcaster and writer for the San Antonio (Texas) Express-News, on television newscast in April 1978, after the first basketball playoff game between the San Antonio Spurs and the Washington Bullets, to illustrate that while the Spurs had won once, the series was not over yet. Bullets coach Dick Motta borrowed the phrase later during the Bullets' eventually successful championship drive, and it became widely known and was often mistakenly attributed to him.—The Washington Post, June 11, 1978, p. D6. Cook may well have said isn't, but this remark is generally heard with ain't.

Time

The ring on the finger becomes thin beneath by wearing, the fall of dripping water hollows the stone.

Lucretius [Titus Lucretius Carus]

De Rerum Natura, I, 314

Time

The weight of this sad time we must obey;

Speak what we feel, not what we ought to say.

The oldest hath borne most: we that are young,

Shall never see so much, nor live so long.

William Shakespeare

King Lear, V, iii, 325

Time

The years as they pass plunder us of one thing after another.

Horacce [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Epistles, II, ii, 55

Time

There is a time for many words, and there is also a time for sleep.

Homer

The Odyssey, XI, 379

Time

There is a time to fish, and a time to dry nets.

Mencius

Time

There is no time like the old time, when you and I were young,

When the buds of April blossomed, and the birds of spring-time sung!

The garden's brightest glories by summer suns are nursed,

But oh, the sweet, sweet violets, the flowers that opened first!

There is no place like the old place, where you and I were born,

Where we lifted first our eyelids on the splendors of the morn

From the milk-white breast that warmed us, from the clinging arms that bore,

Where the dear eyes glistened o'er us that will look on us no more!

There is no friend like the old friend, who has shared our morning days,

No greeting like his welcome, no homage like his praise:

Fame is the scentless sunflower, with gaudy crown of gold;

But friendship is the breathing rose, with sweets in every fold.

There is no love like the old love, that we courted in our pride;

Though our leaves are falling, falling, and we're fading side by side,

There are blossoms all around us with the colors of our dawn,

And we live in borrowed sunshine when the day-star is withdrawn.

There are no times like the old times,—they shall never be forgot!

There is no place like the old place,—keep green the dear old spot!

There are no friends like our old friends,—may Heaven prolong their lives!

There are no loves like our old loves,—God bless our loving wives!

Oliver Wendell Holmes, "No Time Like the Old Time," The Poetical Works of Oliver Wendell Holmes, p. 222 (1895, reprinted 1975).

Time

They are the abstracts and brief chronicles of the time: after your death you were better have a bad epitaph than their ill report while you live.

William Shakespeare

Hamlet, II, ii, 555

Time

Thus the whirligig of time brings in his revenges.

William Shakespeare

Twelfth-Night, V, i, 388

Time

Thus we play the fools with the time, and the spirits of the wise sit in the clouds and mock us.

William Shakespeare

King Henry IV, II, II, ii, 155

Time

Time as he grows old teaches all things.

Aeschylus

Time

Time bears away all things, even our minds.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Elogues, IX, 51

Time

Time cancels young pain.

Euripides

Time

Time discovers truth.

Lucius Annaeus Seneca

Moral Essays. On Anger, 2, 22

Time

Time does not become sacred to us until we have lived it.

John Burroughs

Time

Time is a great legalizer, even in the field of morals.

Henry Mencken

Time

Time is a sort of river of passing events, and strong is its current; no sooner is a thing brought to sight than it is swept by and another takes its place, and this too will be swept away.

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

Meditations, IV, 43

Time

Time is but the stream I go a-fishing in.

Henry David Thoreau

Time

Time is flying never to return.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Georgics, III, 284

Time

Time is money—says the vulgarest saw known to any age or people. Turn it round about, and you get a precious truth—Money is time.

George (Robert) Gissing (1857-1903)

The Private Papers of Henry Ryecroft (1903)

Time

Time is our greatest competitor.

Author Unknown

Time

Time is the father of truth, and experience is the mother of all things.

John (Giovanni) Florio (1553?-1625)

First Frutes (1578)

Time

Time is the image of eternity.

Diogenes Laertius

Plato, 41

Time

Time is the most valuable thing a man can spend.

Theophrastus

Time

Time is the most valuable thing a man can spend.

Theophrastus

From Diogenes Laertius, Theophrastus V, sec. 40

Time

Time marks us while we are marking time.

Theodore Rothke

Time

TIme out of mind.

Miguel de Cervantes

Don Quixote, pt. I, I, 1, 4

Time

Time passes quickly, we can not save it or buy it, but we can make it work and be fruitful.

Author Unknown

Time

Time stays long enough for those who use it.

Leonardo da Vinci

Time

Time the devourer of all things.

Ovid [Publius Ovidius Naso]

Metamorphoses, XV, 234

Time

Time travels in divers paces with divers persons. I'll tell you who Time ambles withal, who Time trots withal, who Time gallops withal, and who he stands still withal.

William Shakespeare

As You Like It, III, ii, 328

Time

Time wastes things away, and all things grow old through time.

Aristotle

Time

Time which antiquates antiquities, and hath an art to make dust of all things.

Sir Thomas Browne

Urn-Burial; or Hydriotaphia, 5

Time

Time will explain it all. He is a talker , and needs no questioning before he speaks.

Euripides

Time

Time, which is the author of authors.

Francis Bacon

The Advancement of Learning, I, iv, 12

Time

To get all there is out of living, we must employ our time wisely, never being in too much of a hurry to stop and sip life, but never losing our sense of the enormous value of a minute.

Robert Updegraff

Time

To keep our eyes open longer were but to act our Antiposed. The huntsmen are up in America, and they are already past their first sleep in Persia. But who can be drowsy at that hour which feeed us from everlasting sleep? or have slumbering thoughts at that time, when sleep itself must end, and, as some conjecture, all shall awake again?

Sir Thomas Browne

Garden of Cyrus, ch. 5

Time

To mourn a mischief that is past and gone is the best way to bring a fresh mischief on.

William Shakespeare

Time

Tobacco, coffee, alcohol, hashish, prussic acid, strychnine, are weak dilutions; the surest poison is time.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Conduct of Life (1860), "Old Age"

Time

Today is here. I will start with a smile, and resolve to be agreeable. I will not criticize. I refuse to waste my time. Today has one thing in which I know I am equal with others—time. All of us draw the same salary in seconds, minutes, hours.

Today I will not waste my time because the minutes I wasted yesterday are as lost as a vanished thought. Today I refuse to spend my time worrying about what might happen. I am going to spend my time making things happen.

Today I am determined to study to improve myself, for tomorrow I may be wanted, and I must not be found lacking. Today I am determined to do things I should do. I am firmly determined to stop doing the things I should not do.

Today I begin by doing and not wasting my time. In one week I will be miles beyond the person I am today.

Today I will no imagine what I would do if things were different. I will make a success with what material I have.

Today I will stop saying, "If I had time," for I never will find time for anything. If I want time, I must take it.

Today I will act toward other people as though it might be my last day on earth. I will not wait for tomorrow. Tomorrow never comes.

Taken from the BANNER printed by the California Mission

Time

Wait for that wisest of all counselors—TIME.

Pericles

Time

What is given by the gods more desirable than the fortunate hour?

Gaius Valerius Catullus

Carmina, LXII, 30

Time

What though the tide of years may roll.

Edward A. Craighill, "Good Old Song," first line of second stanza, 1895. This song from the University of Virginia is set to the tune of "Auld Lang Syne."—John S. Patton, Sallie J. Doswell, and Lewis D. Crenshaw, Jefferson's University, pp. 72-73 (1915).

Time

When I have seen by Time's fell hand defac'd

The rich-proud cost of outworn buried age.

William Shakespeare

Sonnet 64, 1

Time

Why is there never time to something right the first time, but always time to do it again.

Author Unknown

Time

Woe to the princes and people that obey the times, instead of commanding the times! The times will devour them.

Ludwig Boerne

Mendel der Franzosenfresser, 1836.

Time

Yesterday is a canceled check, tomorrow is a promissory note, today is ready cash—spend it…wisely.

TypoGraphic

Time/Youth

Time is the rider that breaks youth.

George Herbert

Times

Antiquitas saeculi juventus mundi. These times are the ancient times, when the world is ancient, and not those which we account ancient ordine retrogrado, by a computation backward form ourselves.

Francis Bacon

The Advancement of Learning, I, v, 8

Times

It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of light, it was the season of darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair, we had everything before us, we had nothing before us, we were all going direct to Heaven, we were all going direct the other way—in short, the period was so far like the present period, that some of its noisiest authorities insisted on its being received, for good or for evil, in the superlative degree of comparison only.

Charles Dickens, A Tale of Two Cities, chapter 1, opening paragraph, p. 3 (1958). Originally published in 1859.

Times

The man and the hour have met.

William Yancey, introducing Jefferson Davis, president-elect of the Confederacy, in Montgomery, Alabama, February 16, 1861. Attributed to Yancey by the biographers of Davis, including Hudson Strode, Jefferson Davis, vol. 1, p. 407 (1955).

Times

These are the times that try men's souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of their country; but he that stands it now deserves the love and thanks of man and woman.

Thomas Paine, "The Crisis," no. 1, The Writings of Thomas Paine, ed. Moncure D. Conway, vol. 1, p. 170 (1894)."The first 'Crisis' is of especial historical interest. It was written during the retreat of Washington across the Delaware, and by order of the Commander was read to groups of his dispirited and suffering soldiers. Its opening sentence [above] was adopted as the watchword of the movement on Trenton, a few days after its publication, and is believed to have inspired much of the courage which won that victory, which, though not imposing in extent, was of great moral effect on Washington's little army" (p. 169).

Times

These times of ours are serious and full of calamity, but all times are essentially alike. As soon as there is life there is danger.

Ralph Waldo Emerson, "Public and Private Education," lecture before the Parker Fraternity, Boston, Massachusetts, November 27, 1864.—Emerson, Uncollected Lectures, ed. Clarence Gohdes, p. 14 (1932).

Times

Times before you, when even living men were antiquites; when the living might exceed the dead, and to depart this world could not be properly said to go unto the greater number.

Sir Thomas Browne

Urn-Burial; or Hydriotaphia. Dedication

Timing

Observe due measure, for right timing is in all things the most important factor.

Hesiod

Ib. 694

Timing

On the Plains of Hesitation bleach the bones of countless millions who, at the Dawn of Victory, sat down to wait, and waiting—died!

George W. Cecil. Under the pseudonym of William A. Lawrence, Cecil wrote and published an advertisement for the International Correspondence Schools in The American Magazine, March 1923, p. 87, in which this sentence is used. For further information and later paraphrase, see The Home Book of American Quotations, ed. Bruce Bohle, p. 208 (1967).

Timing

There is something peculiar in the temper of the House. A clear strong statement of a case if made too soon or too late fails. If well made at the right time it is effective. It is a nice point to study the right time.

Representative James A. Garfield, journal entry on June 12, 1874.—Theodore C. Smith, The Life and Letters of James Abram Garfield, vol. 1, p. 511 (1925).

Today

Cease to ask what the morrow will bring forth, and set down as gain each day that Fortune grants.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Odes, I, ix, 13

Today

Every day should be passed as if it were to be our last.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 633

Today

Now is the time for drinking, now the time to beat the earth with ungettered foot.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Odes, I, xxxvii, 1

Today

Think to yourself that every day is your last; the hour to which you do not look forward will come as a welcome surprise. As for me, when you want a good laugh, you will find me, in a fine state, fat and sleek, a true hog of Epicurus' herd.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Epistles, I, iv, 13

Today

Today is the first day of the rest of your life.

Attributed to Charles Dederich by The Washington Post, December 10, 1978, p. C8. He was the founder of Synanon, a self-help community for drug abusers and alcoholics, based in California.

Tolerance

Nothing dies so hard, or rallies so often, as intolerance.

Henry Ward Beecher

Tolerance

The toleration of heretics is more injurious than the devastation of the provinces by the barbarians.

Gelasius I (?-496), Pope from 492

Tombs/Statues/Monuments

E'en from the tomb the voice of nature cries,

E'en in our ashes live their wonted fires.

Thomas Gray

Tombs/Statues/Monuments

Wrapt in the cold embraces of the tomb.

Alexander Pope

Tradition

One of the greatest burdens in the world is tradition.

John Milton

Tragedy

A tragedy is the imitation of an action that is serious and also, as having magnitude, complete in itself…with incidents arousing pity and fear, wherewith to accomplish its catharsis of such emotions.

Aristotle

Poetics, 6

Tranquility

A crust eaten in peace is better than a banquet partaken in anxiety.

Aesop

Transgression

As sins proceed they multiply; and like figures in arithmetic, the last stands for more than all the rest that went before.

Thomas Browne

Transgression

Sin is never at a stay; if we do not retreat from it, we shall advance in it; and the farther on we go, the more we have to come back.

Isaac Barrow

Transgression

There is no sin we can be tempted to commit, but we shall find a greater satisfaction in resisting than in committing.

Howells

Travel

An age will come after many years when the Ocean will loose the chains of things, and a huge land lie revealed; when Tiphys will disclose new worlds and Thule no more be the ultimate.

Lucius Annaeus Seneca

Medea, 374

Travel

It is not worth while to go around the world to count the cats in Zanzibar.

Henry David Thoreau

Travel

Only that traveling is good which reveals to me the value of home and enables me to enjoy it better.

Henry David Thoreau

Travel

See one promontory, one mountain, one sea, one river, and see all.

Socrates

Travel

Tell me, muse, of the man of many resources who wandered far and wide after he sacked the holy citadel of Troy, and he saw the cities and learned the thoughts of many men, and on the sea he suffered in his heart many woes.

Homer

The Odyssey, bk. I, l. 1

Travel

Travel, in the younger sort, is a part of education; in the elder, a part of experience. He that traveleth into a country before he hath some entrance into the language, goeth to school, and not to travel.

Francis Bacon

Essays, Of Travel

Travel

We, the undersigned, visitors to Bermuda, venture respectfully to express the opinion that the admission of automobiles to the island would alter the whole character of the place, in a way which would seem to us very serious indeed. The island now attracts visitors in considerable numbers because of the quiet and dignified simplicity of its life. . It would, in our opinion, be a fatal error to attract to Bermuda the extravagant and sporting set who have made so many other places of pleasure entirely intolerable to persons of taste and cultivation.

Woodrow Wilson, president of Princeton, petition to the Bermuda Legislature, c. February 1, 1908.—The Papers of Woodrow Wilson, ed. Arthur S. Link, vol. 17, pp. 609-10 (1974). Wilson drafted this petition, which had a total of 111 signers, including Samuel L. Clemens. The Bermuda Legislature did ban all motor cars.

Treason

They [corporations] cannot commit treason, nor be outlawed nor excommunicate, for they have no souls.

Sir Edward Coke

Case of Sutton's Hospital. 10 Report 32

Treason

Treason doth never prosper, what's the reason?

For if it prosper, none dare call it Treason.

Sir John Harington, "Of Treason," The Letters and Epigrams of Sir John Harington…,ed. Norman E. McClure, book 4, epigram 5, p. 255 (1977). The complete edition of his epigrams was published in 1618.

Trifles

Scholars dispute and the case is still before the courts.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Epistles, III, 78

Trifles

The journey of a thousand miles begins with one pace.

Lao Tse

Trouble

A peck of troubles.

Desiderius Erasmus

Apothegms

Trouble

The eternal stars shine out as soon as it is dark enough.

Thomas Carlyle

Trouble

I have had many troubles, but the worst of them never came.

James A. Garfield

Trouble

If things always went wrong, no one could endure it. If they always went well, everyone would become arrogant.

St. Bernard

Trouble

The art of living lies not in eliminating, but in growing with trouble.

Bernard Baruch

Trust

All empire is no more than power in trust.

John Dryden

Absalom and Achitophel, I, 411

Trust

An honest man's word is as good as his bond.

Cervantes

Trust

Faithful Achates.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aeneid, VI, 158 and elsewhere

Trust

Here must all distrust be left behind; all cowardice must be ended.

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy. Inferno, canto III, 14

Trust

I love treason but hate a traitor.

Julius Caesar

Trust

More persons, on the whole, are humbugged by believing nothing, than by believing too much.

Phineas T. Barnum

Ladies' Home Journal, September, 1957.

Trust

Never trust her at any time, when the calm sea shows her false alluring smile.

Lucretius [Titus Lucretius Carus]

De Rerum Natura, II, 558

Trust

Preserve me, O God: for in thee do I put my trust.

The Bible, Psalms 16:1.The stained glass window of the Prayer Room in the United States Capitol contains this verse.

Trust

Princes in this case do hate the traitor, though they love the treason.

Samuel Daniel

Trust

The first duty of men is, to take none of the principles of conduct upon trust; to do nothing without a clear and individual conviction that it is right to be done.

William Godwin (1756-1836)

An Inquiry Concerning Political Justice and Its Influence on General Virtue and Happiness (1793), Ch. 3

Trust

There are three faithful friends: an old wife, an old dog, and ready money.

Benjamin Franklin

Trust

There is no more trusting in women.

Homer

The Odyssey, XI, 456

Trust

This principle is old, but true as fate, Kings may love treason, but the traitor hate.

Thomas Dekker

Trust

Trust men, and they will be true to you; treat them gently, and they will show themselves great.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Trust

Trust, not tricks, will keep customers loyal.

Author Unknown

Trust

We have a saying in the movement that we don't trust anybody over 30.

Jack Weinberg, twenty-four year old leader

of the Free Speech Movement at the University of California,

Berkeley, California, interview with San Francisco Chronicle reporter,

c. 1965. Weinberg later said he did not actually believe the statement,

but said it as a kind of taunt to a question asking if there

were outside adults manipulating the organization.

—The Washington Post, March 23, 1970, p. A1.

Trust

You ought to be true for the sake of the folks who think you are true. You never should stoop to a deed that your folks think you would not do. If you are false to yourself, be the blemish but small, you have injured your folks; you have been false to them all.

Edgar A. Guest

Truth

This is the punishment of a liar: he is not believed, even when he speaks the truth.

Babylonian Talmud

Truth

A man may be in just possession of Truth as of a City, and yet be forced to surrender.

Thomas Browne

Religio Medici, 1642, pt. i.

Truth

A man protesting against error is on the way toward uniting himself with all men that believe in truth.

Thomas Carlyle

Heroes and Hero-Worship.

Truth

A man that seeks truth and loves it must be reckoned precious to any human society.

Frederick The Great

Truth

A truth that's told with bad intent

Beats all the Lies you can invent.

William Blake

Auguries of Innocence.

Truth

Against revolted multitudes the cause

Of truth, in word mightier than they in arms.

John Milton

Paradise Lost, VI, 29

Truth

All truth is a species of revelation.

Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1772-1834)

Letters, To Thomas Poole, March 28, 1801

Truth

And seek for truth in the groves of Academe.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Epistles, II, ii, 45

Truth

Another one of the old poets, whose name has escaped my memory at present, called Truth the daughter of Time.

Aulus Gellius, The Attic Nights of Aulus Gellius, trans. John C. Rolfe, vol. 2, book 12, chapter 11, verse 7, pp. 394-95 (1927).

Truth

Anyone therefore who sets out on this field to hunt down final and ultimate truths, truths which are pure or absolutely immutable, will bring home but little, apart from platitudes and commonplaces of the sorriest kind…. If we have not made much progress with truth and error, we can make even less with good and bad. This antithesis belongs exclusively to the domain of morals, that is, a domain drawn from the history of mankind, and it is precisely in this field that final and ultimate truths are most sparsely sown. The conception of good and bad have varied so much from nation to nation and from age to age that they have often been in direct contradiction to each other.

Friedrich Engels (1820-1895)

Anti-Duhring (1878)

Truth

As scarce as truth is, the supply has always been in excess of the demand.

Henry Wheeler Shaw

Truth

As true as I live.

Thomas Middleton

The Family of Love, V, 3

Truth

Believe nothing, O monks, merely because you have been told it…or because it is traditional, or because you yourselves have imagined it. Do not believe what your teacher tells you merely out of respect for the teacher. But whatsoever, after due examination and analysis, you find to be conducive to the good, the benefit, the welfare of all beings—that doctrine believe and cling to, and take it as your guide.

Gautama Buddha

Truth

Better to suffer for the truth than be rewarded for a lie.

Swedish Proverb

Truth

But my intention being to write something of use to those who understand, it appears to me more proper to go to the real truth of the matter than to its imagination; and many have imagined republics and principalities which have never been seen or known to exist in reality; for how we ought to live, that he who abandons what is done for what ought to be done, will rather bring about his own ruin that his preservation.

Niccolo Machiavelli

The Prince, Ch. 15

Truth

But when men have realized that time has upset many fighting faiths, they may come to believe even more than they believe the very foundations of their own conduct that the ultimate good desired is better reached by free trade in ideas—that the best test of truth is the power of the thought to get itself accepted in the competition of the market, and that truth is the only ground upon which their wishes safely can be carried out.

Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, dissenting, Abrams et al. v. United States, 250 U.S. 630 (1919).

Truth

But whether it be dream or truth, to do well is what matters. If it be truth, for truth's sake. If not, then to gain friends for the time when we awaken.

Pedro Calderonde la Barca

Life Is a Dream, III, 236

Truth

Careless seems the great Avenger; history's pages but record

One death-grapple in the darkness 'twixt old systems and the Word;

Truth forever on the scaffold, Wrong forever on the throne,—

Yet that scaffold sways the future, and, behind the dim unknown,

Standeth God within the shadow, keeping watch above his own.

New occasions teach new duties; Time makes ancient good uncouth;

They must upward still, and onward, who would keep abreast of Truth;

Lo, before us gleam her camp-fires! we ourselves must Pilgrims be,

Launch our Mayflower, and steer boldly through the desperate winter sea,

Nor attempt the Future's portal with the Past's blood-rusted key.

James Russell Lowell, "The Present Crisis," stanzas 8 and 18, The Poetical Works of James Russell Lowell, p. 68 (1978). Originally published in 1844.

Truth

Depend upon this truth, that every man is the worse looked upon, and the less trusted, for being thought to have no religion; in spite of all the pompous and specious epethets he may assume, of Esprit fort, Free-thinker, or Moral Philosopher; and a wise Atheist (if such a thing there is) would, for his own interest, and character in this world, pretend to some religion.

Philip Dormer Stanhope,

4th Earl of Chesterfield (1694-1773)

Letters to His Son, January 8, 1750

Truth

Doctrine is nothing but the skin of truth set up and stuffed.

Henry Ward Beecher

Truth

Every new truth which has ever been propounded has, for a time, caused mischief; it has produced discomfort, and often unhappiness; sometimes disturbing social and religious arrangements, and sometimes merely by the disruption of old and cherished association of thoughts. It is only after a certain interval, and when the framework of affairs has adjusted itself to the new truth, that its good effects preponderate; and the preponderance continues to increase, until at length, the truth causes nothing but good. But at the outset there is always harm. And if the truth is very great, as well as very new, the harm is serious. Men are made uneasy; they flinch; they cannot bear the sudden light; a general restlessness supervenes; the face of society is disturbed, or perhaps convulsed; old interests and old beliefs have been destroyed before new ones have been created. These symptoms are the precursors of revolution; they have preceded all the great changes through which the world has passed.

Henry Thomas Buckle

History of Civilization.

Truth

Everything must have in it a sharp seasoning of truth.

St. Jerome

Letter, 31

Truth

Everything possible to be believ'd is an image of truth.

William Blake

The Marriage of Heaven and Hell.

Truth

Facts are not truths; they are not conclusions; they are not even premises. The truth depends on, and is only arrived at, by a legitimate deduction from all the facts which are truly material.

Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1772-1834)

Table Talk (23 July 1827)

Truth

Falsehood is cowardice,—truth is courage.

Hosea Ballou

Truth

Falsehoods not only disagree with truths, but usually quarrel among themselves.

Daniel Webster

Truth

For historians ought to be precise, truthful, and quite unprejudiced, and neither interest nor fear, hatred nor affection, should cause them to swerve from the path of truth, whose mother is history, the rival of time, the depository of great actions, the witness of what is past, the example and instruction of the present, the monitor of the future.

Miguel de Cervantes

Don Quixote, pt. II.

Truth

For mankind to hate truth as it may bring their evil deeds to light and punishment, is very easy and common; but to hate truth as truth, or God as God, which is the same as to hate goodness for its own sake, un-connected with any other consequences, is impossible even to a (premised) diabolical nature itself.

Ethan Allen

Reason the Only Oracle of Man, first edition, Bennington, Vt.,

1784; Scholars' Facsimiles & Reprints, N.Y.C., 1940. p. 31.

Truth

For truth has such a face and such a mien

As to be loved needs only to be seen.

John Dryden

Truth

Half the truth is often a great lie.

Benjamin Franklin

Truth

He therefore who wishes to rejoice without doubt in regard to the truths underlying phenomena must know how to devote himself to experiment.

Roger Bacon

Opus majus, trans. by R. B. Burke, 1928.

Truth

He who has the truth in his heart need never fear the want of persuasion of his tongue.

Author Unknown

Truth

He who loves will love truth not less than men. He will rejoice in the truth—rejoice not in what he has been taught to believe; not in this church's doctrines or in that; not in this ism or in that ism; but in the truth. He will accept only that which is real; he will strive to get at facts; he will search for truth with a humble and unbiased mind, and cherish whatever he finds at any sacrifice.

Henry Drummond

Truth

He who would distinguish the true from the false must have an adequate idea of what is true and false.

Benedict [Baruch] Spinoza

Ethics, II, 42: proof

Truth

Hell is truth seen too late—duty neglected in its season.

Attributed to Tyron Edwards.—Edwards, A Dictionary of Thoughts, p. 225 (1891).

Truth

I believe that in the end the truth will conquer.

John Wycliffe

To the Duke of Lancaster. From J.R. Green, A Short History of the English People, ch. 5

Truth

I believe that truth is the glue that holds government together, not only our Government but civilization itself. That bond, though strained, is unbroken at home and abroad.

President Gerald R. Ford, remarks on taking the oath of office, August 9, 1974.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Gerald R. Ford, 1974, p. 2.

Truth

I came into a place void of all light, which bellows like the sea in tempest, when it is combated by warring winds.

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy. Inferno, canto V, 28

Truth

I do not know what I may appear to the world; but to myself I seem to have been only like a boy playing on the seashore, and diverting myself in now and then finding a smoother pebble or a prettier shell than ordinary, whilst the great ocean of truth lay all undiscovered before me.

Sir Isaac Newton

Truth

I never knew an auctioneer to lie, unless it was absolutely necessary.

Josh Billings

Truth

I will be as harsh as truth and as uncompromising as justice. On this subject I do not wish to think, or speak, or write, with moderation.

William Lloyd Garrison (1805-1879)

The Liberator, January 1, 1831 (first issue)

Truth

If you limit the search for truth and forbid men anywhere, in any way, to seek knowledge, you paralyze the vital force of truth itself. In the best sense of the word, Jesus was a radical…. His religion has been so long identified with conservatism—often with conservatism of the obstinate and unyielding sort—that it is almost startling for us sometimes to remember that all of the conservatism of his own times was against him; that it was the young, free, restless, sanguine, progressive part of the people who flocked to him.

Phillips Brooks

Quoted, The Churchman.

Truth

It is better to wear out than to rust out.

Bishop Richard Cumberland

From Bishop George Horne,

Sermon on the Duty of Contending for the Truth

Truth

It is natural to man to indulge in the illusions of hope. We are apt to shut our eyes against a painful truth—and listen to the song of that syren, till she transforms us into beasts. Is this the part of wise men, engaged in a great and arduous struggle for liberty? Are we disposed to be of the number of those, who having eyes, see not, and having ears, hear not, the things which so nearly concern their temporal salvation? For my part, whatever anguish of spirit it might cost, I am willing to know the whole truth; to know the worst, and to provide for it.

Patrick Henry, speech to the Virginia Convention, Richmond, Virginia, March 23, 1775.—William Wirt, Sketches of the Life and Character of Patrick Henry, 9th ed., p. 138 (1836, reprinted 1970). Language altered to first person.For information on the authenticity of the text of this speech, see the notes at No. 1061.

Truth

It is one thing to show a man that he is in error, and another to put him in possession of truth.

John Locke

Truth

It is proof of a base and low mind for one to wish to think with the masses or majority, merely because the majority is the majority. Truth does not change because it is, or is not, believed by a majority of the people.

Giordano Bruno

Truth

It takes two to speak the truth—one to speak, and another to hear.

Henry David Thoreau

Truth

Liars when they speak the truth are not believed.

Aristotle

Truth

Light was first

Through the Lord's word

Named day:

Beauteous, bright creation!

Caedmon

Creation. The First Day

Truth

Man defends himself as much as he can against truth, as a child does against a medicine, as the man of the Platonic cave does against the light. He does not willingly follow his path, he has to be dragged along backward. This natural liking for the false have several causes: the inheritance of prejudices, which produces an unconscious habit, a slavery; the predominance of the imagination over the reason, which affects the understanding; the predominance of the passions over the conscience, which depraves the heart; the predominance of the will over the intelligence, which vitiates the character. A lively, disinterested, persistent liking for truth is extraordinarily rare. Actions and faith enslave thought, both of them in order not to be troubled or inconvenienced by reflection, criticism and doubt.

Henri Frederic Amiel

The Private Journal of Henri Frederic Amiel, translated by Van Wyck and

Charles Van Wyck Brooks.

Truth

Many…have too rashly charged the troops of error, and remain as trophies unto the enemies of truth.

Sir Thomas Browne

Religio Medici, I, 6

Truth

No man has a good enough memory to be a successful liar.

Abraham Lincoln

Truth

No man thoroughly understands a truth until he has contended against it.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Truth

No truth so sublime but it may be trivial tomorrow in the light of new thoughts. People wish to be settled; only as far as they are unsettled is there any hope for them.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Essays: First Series (1841)

Truth

Not every truth is the better for showing its face undisguised; and often silence is the wisest thing for a man to heed.

Pindar

Truth

Not the least misfortune in a prominent falsehood is the fact that tradition is apt to repeat it for truth.

Hosea Ballou

Truth

Nothing but truth is lovely, nothing fair.

Nicolas Boileau-Despreaux

Truth

One unerring mark of the love of truth is not entertaining any proposition with greater assurance than the proofs it is built upon will warrant.

John Locke

Truth

Our minds possess by nature an insatiable desire to know the truth.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

Truth

Persecution cannot harm him who stands by Truth. Did not Socrates fall proudly a victim in body? Was not Paul stoned for the sake of the Truth? It is our inner selves that hurt us when we disobey it, and it kills us when we betray it.

Kahlil Gibran, The Secrets of the Heart, trans. Anthony R. Ferris, p. 157 (1947).

Truth

Speak the truth and shame the Devil.

Francois Rabelais

Truth

Such truth as opposeth no man's profit nor pleasure is to all men welcome.

Thomas Hobbes

Truth

Superstition, idolatry, and hypocrisy have ample wages, but truth goes a-begging.

Martin Luther

Truth

Take your stand boldly upon Truth, and the error assail you upon a thousand sides you need no fear no man.

Grenville Kleiser

Truth

Tell the truth

But tell it slant.

Emily Dickinson

Truth

The art of achieving the true is very little practiced, it is not even known, because there is no personal humility or even love of the true. We desire, as a matter of course, the kind of knowledge that strengthens our hand or tongue and serves our vanity or our desire for power; but the criticism of ourselves, of our prejudices and inclinations, is antipathetic to us.

Henri Frederic Amiel

The Private Journal of Henri Frederic Amiel, translated by Van Wyck and

Charles Van Wyck Brooks.

Truth

The beginning of all is to have done away with falsity—to eschew falsity as death eternal.

Thomas Carlyle

Journal, June 23, 1870.

Truth

The dictum that truth always triumphs over persecution is one of those pleasant falsehoods which men repeat after one another till they pass into commonplace, but which all experience refutes.

John Stuart Mill

Truth

The dignity of truth is lost with much protesting.

Ben Jonson

Catiline's Conspiracy, III, 2

Truth

The first law for the historian is that he shall never dare utter an untruth. The second is that he shall suppress nothing that is true. Moreover, there shall be no suspicion of partiality in his writing, or of malice.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

De Oratore, II, 62

Truth

The greatest friend of truth is Time, her greatest enemy is Prejudice, and her constant companion is Humility.

Charles Caleb Colton (1780-1832)

The Lacon (1829)

Truth

The high-minded man must care more for the truth than for what people think.

Aristotle

Truth

The highest compact we can make with our fellow is, let there be truth between us forevermore.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Truth

The inquiry of truth, which is the love-making or wooing of it; the knowledge of truth, which is the praise of it; and the belief of truth, which is the enjoying of it, is the sovereign good of human nature.

Francis Bacon

Essays. Of Truth.

Truth

The least initial deviation from the truth is multiplied later a thousand fold.

Aristotle

Truth

The most violent revolutions in an individual's beliefs leave most of his old order standing. Time and space, cause and effect, nature and history, and one's own biography remain untouched. New truth is always a go-between, a smoother-over of transitions. It marries old opinion to new fact so as ever to show a minimum of jolt, a maximum of continuity.

William James, "What Pragmatism Means," Pragmatism, pp. 60-61 (1931). Lectures delivered at the Lowell Institute, Boston, Massachusetts, December 1906, and at Columbia University, New York City, January 1907.

Truth

The priesthood have, in all ancient nations, nearly monopolized learning….And ever since the Reformation, when or where has existed a Protestant or dissenting sect who would tolerate A FREE INQUIRY? The blackest billingsgate, the most ungentlemanly insolence, the most yahooish brutality, is patiently endured, countenanced, propagated, and applauded. But touch a solemn truth in collision with a dogma of a sect, though capable of the clearest proof, and you will soon find you have disturbed a nest, and the hornets will swarm about your eyes and hand, and fly into your face and eyes.

John Adams

Letter to John Taylor, The Life and Works of John Adams, Boston, 1851, v. 6,

p. 517.

Truth

The superior man does not set his mind either for anything, or against anything; what is right he will follow.

Confucius

Truth

The truth is always the strongest argument.

Sophocles

Truth

The truth is, the science of Nature has already too long made only a work of the brain and fancy: It is now high time that it should return to the plainness and soundness of observations on material and obvious things.

Robert Hooke

Truth

The truth sometimes not sought for comes forth to the light.

Menander

The Girl Who Gets Flogged, fragment 433

Truth

The truth, the hope of any time, must always be sought in minorities.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Complete Works of Ralph Waldo Emerson, Vol. VIII

Truth

There is nothing so powerful as truth, and often nothing so strange.

Daniel Webster

Truth

There is one truth and one goodness penetrating and governing all things.

Giordano Bruno

Letter to the Inquisition.

Truth

There is only one way for a man to be true to himself. If he does not know what is good, a man cannot be true to himself.

Confucius (551-479 B.C.)

The Doctrine of Mean (tr. Legge), Ch. XXIII

Truth

Those are weaklings who know the truth and uphold it as long as it suits their purpose, and then abandon it.

Blaise Pascal

Truth

Thus absolute truth is indestructible. Being indestructible, it is eternal. Being eternal, it is self-existent. Being self-existent, it is infinite. Being infinite, it is vast and deep. Being vast and deep, it is transcendental and intelligent.

Confucius (551-479 B.C.)

The Doctrine of Mean (tr. Legge), Ch. XXIII

Truth

To bear all-naked truths

And to envisage circumstances all calm,

That is the top of sovereignty.

The Deed is everything, the Glory nought.

Yes! To this thought I cling with firm persistence;

The last result of wisdom stamps it true:

He only earns his freedom and existence

Who daily conquers them anew.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832)

Faust (1806)

Truth

True words are not beautiful; Beautiful words are not true. A good man does not argue; He who argues is not a good man. A wise man has no extensive knowledge edge; He who has extensive knowledge is not a wise man. The sage does not accumulate for himself. The more he uses for others, the more he has himself. The more he gives to others, the more he possesses of his own. The way of Heaven is to benefit others and not to injure. The way of the sage is to act but not to compete.

Lao Tzu

The Way of Lao Tzu 81

Truth

Truly, to tell lies is not honorable; But when the truth entails tremendous ruin, To speak dishonorably is pardonable.

Sophocles

Truth

Truth above all, even when it upsets and overwhelms us!

Henri Frederic Amiel

Journal.

Truth

Truth crushed to earth; shall rise again; The eternal years of God are hers; But Error; wounded; writhes in pain; And dies among her worshippers.

William Cullen Bryant

Truth

Truth does not blush.

Tertullian

Truth

Truth does not need argument to prove itself.

Author Unknown

Truth

Truth is a thing immortal and perpetual, and it gives to us a beauty that fades not away in time.

Epictetus

Truth

Truth is a torch, but a terrific one; therefore we all try to grasp it with closed eyes, fearing to be blinded.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832)

Maxims

Truth

Truth is the beginning of every good thing, both in heaven and in earth; and he who would be blessed and happy should be from the first, a partaker of truth.

Plato

Truth

Truth is the daughter of time.

Aulus Gellius (130-175 A.D.)

Noctis Atticae, Bk. 12, ch. 11

Truth

Truth is the strong thing. Let man's life be true!

Robert Browning

Truth

Truth may be stretched, but cannot be broken, and always gets above falsehood, as oil does above water.

Miguel de Cervantes

Don Quixote, pt. V.

Truth

Truth never yet fell dead in the streets; it has such affinity with the soul of man, the seed however broadcast will catch somewhere and produce its hundredfold.

Theodore Parker

Truth

Truth often suffers more by the heat of its defenders than from the arguments of its opposers.

William Penn

Truth

Truth persuades by teaching, but does not teach by persuading.

Quintus Septimius Tertullian

Adversus Valentinianos, 1

Truth

Truth persuades by teaching, but does not teach by persuading.

Tertullian

Truth

Truth uttered before its time is dangerous.

Mencius

Truth

Truth, crushed to earth, shall rise again;

Th' eternal years of God are hers;

But Error, wounded, writhes in pain,

And dies among his worshippers.

William Cullen Bryant, "The Battle-Field," stanza 9, The Poetical Works of William Cullen Bryant, ed. Parke Godwin, vol. 1, p. 276 (1883, reprinted 1967). Written in 1837.

Truth

Truth, fact, is the life of all things; falsity, "fiction", or whatever it may call itself, is certain to be the death.

Thomas Carlyle

Latter-day Pamphlets.

Truth

Truth…never comes into the world but like a bastard, to the ignominy of him that brought her forth.

John Milton

The Doctrine and Discipline of Divorce, introduction

Truth

We acknowledge but one motive—to follow the truth as we know it, whithersoever it may lead us; but in our heart of hearts we are well assured that the truth which has made us free, will in the end make us glad also.

Mortimer Adler

Truth

We know how to speak many falsehoods which resemble real things, but we know, when we will, how to speak true things.

Hesiod

Truth

We know the truth, not only by reason, but by the heart.

Blaise Pascal

Truth

We should face reality and our past mistakes in an honest, adult way. Boasting of glory does not make glory, and singing in the dark does not dispel fear.

Hussein, king of Jordan, remarks during a conference of Arab chiefs of state, Khartoum, Sudan, August 30, 1967, as reported by The New York Times, August 31, 1967, p. 6.

Truth

What governs men is the fear of truth.

Henri Frederic Amiel

Journal, March 1, 1869.

Truth

What is truth? Truth is something so noble that if God could turn aside from it, I would keep to the truth and let God go.

Johannes Eckhard (Meister Eckhard) (c. 1260-1327)

Truth

When knaves fall out, honest men get their goods; when priests dispute, we come to the truth.

Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790)

Poor Richard's Almanac, 1758

Truth

While both [Plato and truth] are dear, piety requires us to honor truth above our friends.

Aristotle

Nicomachean Ethics, I, 6

Truth

While truth is always bitter, pleasantness waits upon evildoing.

St. Jerome

Truth

Why shouldn't truth be stranger than fiction? Fiction, after all, has to make sense.

Mark Twain

Truth

You'll never get mixed up if you simply tell the truth. Then you don't have to remember what you have said, and you never forget what you have said.

Representative Sam Rayburn, private conversation.—W. B. Ragsdale, "An Old Friend Writes of Rayburn," US. News & World Report, October 23, 1961, p. 72.

Truth

[Beatrice] who shall be a light between truth and intellect.

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy. Pugatorio, canto VI, 45

Trying

Ah, but a man's reach should exceed his grasp,

Or what's a heaven for?

Robert Browning, "Andrea Del Sarto," The Complete Poetic and Dramatic Works of Robert Browning, p. 346 (1895).

Trying

Somebody said that it couldn't be done,

But he with a chuckle replied

That "maybe it couldn't," but he would be one

Who wouldn't say so till he'd tried.

So he buckled right in with the trace of a grin

On his face. If he worried he hid it.

He started to sing as he tackled the thing

That couldn't be done, and he did it.

Edgar A. Guest, "It Couldn't Be Done," stanza I, Collected Verse of Edgar A. Guest, p. 285 (1934).

Trying

The country needs and, unless I mistake its temper, the country demands bold, persistent experimentation. It is common sense to take a method and try it; if it fails, admit it franKly and try another. But above all, try something. The millions who are in want will not stand by silently forever while the things to satisfy their needs are within easy reach.

Franklin D. Roosevelt, governor of New York, Looking Forward, chapter 2, p. 51 (1933).

Trying

The mode in which the inevitable comes to pass is through effort.

Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, "Ideals and Doubts," Collected Legal Papers, p. 305 (1937).

Tyranny/Tyrants

A tyrant doth signify a cruel lord, who, by force or by craft, or by treachery, hath obtained power over any realm or country; and such men be of such nature, that when once they have grown strong in the land, they love rather to work their own profit, though it be to the harm of the land, than the common profit of all, for they always live in an ill fear of losing it.

Alfonso X (Alfonso the Wise)

Las Siete Partidas.

Tyranny/Tyrants

All men would be tyrants if they could.

Daniel Defoe

Tyranny/Tyrants

Death is better, a milder fate than tyranny.

Aeschylus

Tyranny/Tyrants

For somehow this is tyranny's disease, to trust no friends.

Aeschylus

Tyranny/Tyrants

God Himself has no right to be a tyrant.

William Godwin (1756-1836)

Sketches of History (1784)

Tyranny/Tyrants

I have sworn upon the altar of God, eternal hostility against every form of tyranny over the mind of man.

Vice President Thomas Jefferson, letter to Benjamin Rush, September 23, 1800.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Andrew A. Lipscomb, vol. 10, p. 175 (1903).Carved at the base of the dome, interior of the Jefferson Memorial, Washington, D.C.

Tyranny/Tyrants

Let men be on their guard against those who flatter and mislead the multitude: their actions prove what sort of men they are. Of the tyrant, spies and informers are the principal instruments. War is his favorite occupation, for the sake of engrossing the attention of the people, and making himself necessary to them as their leader.

Aristotle

Tyranny/Tyrants

Of all plagues with which mankind are cursed, ecclesiastic tyranny's the worst.

Daniel Defoe

Tyranny/Tyrants

Of all the tyrannies on human kind

The worst is that which persecutes the mind.

John Dryden

Tyranny/Tyrants

One law for the Lion & Ox is Oppression.

William Blake

The Marriage of Heaven and Hell.

Tyranny/Tyrants

Sic simper tyrannis.

Thus always to tyrants.

Anonymous Latin

Motto of Virginia

Tyranny/Tyrants

The limits of tyrants are prescribed by the endurance of those whom they suppress.

Frederick Douglass (1817?-1895)

Tyranny/Tyrants

The people have always some champion whom they set over them and nurse into greatness….This and no other is the root from which a tyrant springs; when he first appears he is a protector.

Plato

The Republic, VIII, 565-C

Tyranny/Tyrants

The time to guard against corruption and tyranny is before they have gotten hold of us. It is better to keep the wolf out of the fold than to trust to drawing his teeth and talons after he shall have entered.

Thomas Jefferson

Tyranny/Tyrants

The tyrannies of the world, whatever be the appellation of the government under which they are exercised, are all aristocratical tyrannies. An Ordinance to plunder and murder, whether it culminate from the Vatican, or steal silently forth from the Harem; whether it come clothed in the certain science of a Bed of Justice, or in the legal solemnities of a bench of lawyers; whether it be purchased by the caresses of a woman, or the treasures of a nation—never confines its effects to the benefit of a single individual; it goes to enrich the whole combination of conspirators, whose business it is to dupe and to govern the nation.

Joel Barlow

Advice to the Privileged Orders.

Tyranny/Tyrants

The tyranny of the commonplace, which seems to accompany civilization.

Walter Bagehot

The English Constitution.

Tyranny/Tyrants

The tyrant, who in order to hold his power, suppresses every superiority, does away with good men, forbids education and light, controls every movement of the citizens and, keeping them under a perpetual servitude, wants them to grow accustomed to baseness and cowardice, has his spies everywhere to listen to what is said in the meetings, and spreads dissension and calumny among the citizens and impoverishes them, is obliged to make war in order to keep his subjects occupied and impose on them permanent need of a chief.

Aristotle

Tyranny/Tyrants

They (tyrants) use their power against the people in three manners. The first is that they strive that those under their mastery be ever ignorant and timorous, because, when they be such, they may not be bold to rise against them, nor to resist their wills; and the second is that their victims be not kindly and united among themselves, in such wise that they trust not one another. …; and the third way is that they strive to make them poor, and to put them upon great undertakings, which they can never finish, whereby they may have so much harm that it may never come into their hearts to devise anything against their ruler.

Alfonso X (Alfonso the Wise)

Las Siete Partidas.

Tyranny/Tyrants

Those who voluntarily put power into the hands of a tyrant or an enemy, must not wonder if it be at last turned against themselves.

Aesop

Tyranny/Tyrants

Tyranny, like hell, is not easily conquered; yet we have this consolation with us, that the harder the conflict the more glorious the triumph.

Thomas Paine

Tyranny/Tyrants

Tyranny, like hell, is not easily conquered; yet we have this consolation with us, that the harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph. What we obtain too cheap, we esteem too lightly: it is dearness only that gives every thing its value.

Thomas Paine, "The Crisis," no. 1, The Writings of Thomas Paine, ed. Moncure D. Conway, vol. 1, p. 170 (1894).

Tyranny/Tyrants

Unlimited power is apt to corrupt the minds of those who possess it; and this I know, my lords, that where laws end, tyranny begins.

William Pitt

Tyranny/Tyrants

Wherever Law ends, Tyranny begins.

John Locke

Tyranny/Tyrants

A despot easily forgives his subjects for not loving him, provided they do not love each other.

Alexis de Tocqueville

Tyranny/Tyrants

Can tyrants but by tyrants conquer'd be,

And Freedom find no champion and no

child

Such as Columbia saw arise when she

Sprung forth a Pallas, arm'd and

undefiled?

Lord Byron

Childe Harold's Pilgrimage, 1809-1817.

Tyranny/Tyrants

I have sworn upon the altar of God, eternal hostility against every form of tyranny over the mind of man.

Thomas Jefferson

Tyranny/Tyrants

In the early days of his power, he is full of smiles, and he salutes everyone whom he meets.

Plato

The Republic, VIII, 566-D

Tyranny/Tyrants

Necessity is the argument of tyrants, it is the creed of slaves.

William Pitt

Tyranny/Tyrants

The best government is a benevolent tyranny tempered by an occasional assassination.

Voltaire

Tyranny/Tyrants

The man who is tenacious of purpose in a rightful cause is not shaken from his firm resolve by the frenzy of his fellow citizens clamoring for what is wrong, or by the tyrant's threatening countenance.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Odes, III, III, 1

Tyranny/Tyrants

The tyranny of legislators is at present, and will be for many years, our most formidable danger. The tyranny of the executive will arise in its turn, but at a more distant period.

Thomas Jefferson

Tyranny/Tyrants

Tyrants have not yet discovered any chains that can fetter the mind.

Charles Caleb Colton

Tyranny/Tyrants

When the tyrant has disposed of foreign enemies by conquest or treaty, and there is nothing to fear from them, then he is always stirring up some war or other, in order that the people may require a leader.

Plato

The Republic, VIII, 566-E

Tyranny/Tyrants

With reasonable men, I will reason; with humane men, I will plead; but to tyrants I will give no quarter, nor waste arguments where they will certainly be lost.

William Lloyd Garrison

Understanding

'Tis better to understand, than to be understood.

Author Unknown

Understanding

Give it an understanding, but no tongue.

William Shakespeare

Hamlet, I, ii, 249

Understanding

Do not laugh, do not weep, try to understand.

Benedict Spinoza

Understanding

Some persons of weak understanding are so sensible of that weakness, as to be able to make a good use of it.

Rochefoucauld

Unemployment

All Gaul is divided into three parts.

Julius Caesar

De Bello Gallico, I, 1

Unemployment

But the time will come when New England will be as thickly peopled as old England. Wages will be as low, and will fluctuate as much with you as with us. You will have your Manchesters and Birminghams; and, in those Manchesters and Birminghams, hundreds of thousands of artisans will assuredly be sometimes out of work. Then your institutions will be fairly brought to the test.

Thomas Babington Macaulay, letter to Henry Stephens Randall, May 23, 1857.—The Letters of Thomas Babington Macaulay, ed. Thomas Pinney, vol. 6, p. 95 (1981).

Unemployment

When a great many people are unable to find work, unemployment results.

Attributed to Calvin Coolidge.—Stanley Walker, City Editor, p. 131 (1934). Unverified.

Unhappiness

Unhappiness is in not knowing what we want and killing ourselves to get it.

Don Herold

Union

"A house divided against itself cannot stand." I believe this government cannot endure, permanently half slave and half flee. I do not expect the Union to be dissolved—I do not expect the house to fall—but I do expect it will cease to be divided. It will become all one thing, or all the other.

Abraham Lincoln, speech delivered at the close of the Republican state convention, which named him the candidate for the United States Senate, Springfield, Illinois, June 16, 1858.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P Basler, vol. 2, p. 461 (1953). The quotation is a slight paraphrase of the Bible, Mark 3:25.

This "was probably the most carefully prepared address of Lincoln's life. The majority of his friends thought the sentiments nothing short of political suicide. Herndon writes that before delivering the oration Lincoln had declared…that 'the time has come when those sentiments should be uttered and if it is decreed that I should go down because of this speech, then let me go down linked with the truth—let me die in the advocacy of what is just and right.' "—Complete Works of Abraham Lincoln, new and enl. ed., ed. John G. Nicolay and John Hay, vol. 3, pp. 1-2, footnote 1 (1905).

Union

I am exceedingly anxious that this Union, the Constitution, and the liberties of the people shall be perpetuated in accordance with the original idea for which that struggle was made, and I shall be most happy indeed if I shall be an humble instrument in the hands of the Almighty, and of this, his almost chosen people, for perpetuating the object of that great struggle.

President-elect Abraham Lincoln, address to the New Jersey Senate, February 21, 1861.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P. Basler, vol. 4, p. 236 (1953).

Union

It's a story they tell in the border country, where Massachusetts joins Vermont and New Hampshire. Yes, Dan'l Webster's dead—or, at least, they buried him.

But every time there's a thunderstorm around Marshfield, they say you can hear his rolling voice in the hollows of the sky. And they say that if you go to his grave and speak loud and clear, "Dan'l Webster—Dan'l Webster!" the ground'll begin to shiver and the trees begin to shake. And after a while you'll hear a deep voice saying, "Neighbor, how stands the Union?" Then you better answer the Union stands as she stood, rock-bottomed and copper-sheathed, one and indivisible, or he's liable to rear right out of the ground. At least, that's what I was told when I was a youngster.

Stephen Vincent Benet,

The Devil and Daniel Webster; pp. 13-14 (1937). 1849

Our Union: It must be preserved.

President Andrew Jackson,

toast at a Jefferson Day dinner, April 13, 1830.

—Marquis James, Andrew Jackson:

Portrait of a President, p. 235 (1937).

The account by James emphasizes the shocked reaction of Jackson's vice president, John C. Calhoun, to this toast, since it was clear he had lost Jackson's support of the Southern cause of nullification. When Calhoun's turn came, his toast was: "The Union, next to our liberty, most dear. May we all remember that it can only be preserved by respecting the rights of the States and by distributing equally the benefits and burdens of the Union" (pp. 235-36).

According to Martin Van Buren, Autobiography, vol. 2, p. 415 (1920, reprinted 1973), at the urging of General Hayne, Jackson altered his toast to "Our Federal Union" before it was given to the newspapers, and it was reported in this form in many sources including James Parton, Life of Andrew Jackson, vol. 3, p. 283 (1860), and Thomas Hart Benton, Thirty Years View, vol. 1, p. 148 (1854, reprinted 1883).

Union

Still a Union that can only be maintained by swords and bayonets, and in which strife and civil war are to take the place of brotherly love and kindness, has no charm for me.

Robert E. Lee, letter to his son, G. W. Custis Lee, January 23, 1861.—John William Jones, Personal Reminiscences, Anecdotes, and Letters of Gen. Robert E. Lee, p. 137 (1876).

Union

There is a strength in the union even of very sorry men.

Homer

The Iliad, XIII, 237

Union

While the Union lasts, we have high, exciting, gratifying prospects spread out before us, for us and our children. Beyond that I seek not to penetrate the veil. God grant that in my day, at least, that curtain may not rise! God grant that on my vision never may be opened what lies behind! When my eyes shall be turned to behold for the last time the sun in heaven, may I not see him shining on the broken and dishonored fragments of a once glorious Union; on States dissevered, discordant, belligerent; on a land rent with civil feuds, or drenched, it may be, in fraternal blood! Let their last feeble and lingering glance rather behold the gorgeous ensign of the republic, now known and honored throughout the earth, still full and high advanced, its arms and trophies streaming in their original lustre, not a strip erased or polluted, nor a single star obscured, bearing for its motto, no such miserable interrogatory as "What is all this worth?" nor those other words of delusion and folly, "Liberty first and Union afterwards"; but everywhere, spread all over in characters of living light, blazing on all its ample folds, as they float over the sea and over the land, and in every wind under the whole heavens, that other sentiment, dear to every true American heart,—Liberty and Union, now and for ever, one and inseparable!

Senator Daniel Webster, remarks in the Senate, second speech on Foote's resolution, January 26, 1830.—The Writings and Speeches of Daniel Webster, vol. 6, p. 75 (1903).

Union

Within that door

A man sits or the image of a man

Staring at stillness on a marble floor.

No drum distracts him nor no trumpet can

Although he hears the trumpet and the drum.

He listens for the time to come.

Within this door

A man sits or the image of a man

Remembering the time before.

He hears beneath the river in its choking channel

A deeper river rushing on the stone,

Sits there in his doubt alone,

Discerns the Principle,

The guns begin,

Emancipates—but not the slaves,

The Union—not from servitude but shame:

Emancipates the Union from the monstrous name

Whose infamy dishonored

Even the great Founders in their graves—

He saves the Union and the dream goes on.

Archibald Macleish, "At the Lincoln Memorial," stanza 4, lines 1-6, and stanza 5, New & Collected Poems, 1917-1976, pp. 433-35 (1976).This poem was written for ceremonies marking the centennial of the Emancipation Proclamation and was read by MacLeish at the Lincoln Memorial, Washington, D.C., September 22, 1962.

Uniqueness

I do not wish to be a common man. It is my right to be uncommon. I seek opportunity, not security. I do not wish to be a kept citizen, humbled and dulled by having the State look after me. I want to take the calculated risk; to dream and to build, to fail and to succeed. I refuse to barter incentive for dole. I prefer the challenges of life to the guaranteed existence, the thrill of fulfillment to the stale calm of Utopia. I will not trade freedom for beneficence, nor my dignity for a handout. It is my heritage to think and act for myself, to enjoy the benefit of my creations, and to face the world boldly and say, 'This I have done.'

John W. Chalfant

Uniqueness

THE ART OF BEING YOURSELF

The art of being yourself at you best is the art of unfolding your personality into the man you want to be. A famous biologist has said that the possibility of even identical twins being wholly alike is one chance to all of the electrons in the world; each man is a unique individual being.

By the grace of God you are what you are. Glory in your selfhood. Accept yourself and go on from there.

A good place to begin is by having faith in yourself and your destiny. "Trust yourself," wrote Emerson, "every heart vibrates to that iron string."

Champion the right to be yourself. Dare to be different and to set your own pattern. Live your own life and follow your own star.

Respect yourself. You have the right to be here and you have important work to do.

Don't stand in your own shadow. Get your little self out of the way so your big self can stride forward.

Make the most of yourself by fanning the tiny spark of possibility within you into the flame of achievement.

Follow the advice of Socrates:"Know Thyself.", Know your strengths and your weaknesses; your relation to the universe; your potentialities; your spiritual heritage; your aims and purposes; take stock of yourself.

Create the kind of self you will be happy to live with all your life.

Consider the words of the new convert who prayed:"Oh, Lord, help me to reform the world—beginning with me."

Be gentle with yourself, learn to love yourself, to forgive yourself, for only as we have the right attitude toward ourselves can we have the right attitude toward others.

Wilfred A. Peterson

United Nations

Eagerly, musician,

Sweep your string,

So we may sing,

Elated, optative,

Our several voices

Interblending,

Playfully contending,

Not interfering

But co-inhering,

For all within

The cincture of the sound

Is holy ground,

Where all are Brothers,

None faceless Others.

Let mortals beware

Of words, for

With words we lie,

Can say peace

When we mean war,

Foul thought speak fair

And promise falsely,

But song is true:

Let music for peace

Be the paradigm,

For peace means to change

At the right time,

As the World-Clock,

Goes Tick and Tock.

So may the story

Of our human city

Presently move

Like music, when

Begotten notes

New notes beget,

Making the flowing

Of time a growing,

Till what it could be,

At last it is,

Where even sadness

Is a form of gladness,

Where Fate is Freedom,

Grace and Surprise.

W. H. Auden, "Hymn to the United Nations" music by Pablo Casals.—Text in The New York Times, October 25, 1971, p. 40.

United Nations

It is not the Soviet Union or indeed any other big Powers who need the United Nations for their protection. It is all the others. In this sense, the Organization is first of all their Organization and I deeply believe in the wisdom with which they will be able to use it and guide it. I shall remain in my post during the term of my office as a servant of the Organization in the interests of all those other nations, as long as they wish me to do so.

Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld, statement to the General Assembly of the United Nations, October 3, 1960.—Official Records of the United Nations, General Assembly, vol. 1, p. 332.

United Nations

Protocol, alcohol, and Geritol.

Adlai E. Stevenson, U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, definition of diplomatic life.—Herbert J. Muller, Adlai Stevenson, p. 274 (1967).

Unity

Ah, ye good people the matters goeth not well to pass in England, nor shall not do till everything be common, and there shall be no villeins nor gentlemen, but that we may be all united together, and that the lords be no greater masters than we be.

John Ball

"How the Commons of England Rebelled Against the Noblemen" (1381),

Chronicles of Froissart, 1523.

Unity

All for one, one for all, that is our device, is it not?

Alexandre Dumas, The Three Musketeers, chapter 9, p. 75 (1949). D'Artagnan is speaking.

Unity

And see the confluence of dreams

That clashed together in our night, One river born of many streams

Boll in one blaze of blinding light!

George William Russell (AE), "Salutation," last stanza.—Kathleen Hoagland, 1000 Years of Irish Poetry, p. 617 (1947).This was written for those who took part in the Irish rebellion against England, 1916.

Unity

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments.

The Bible, Psalms 133:1-2.

Unity

Civilization will not last, freedom will not survive, peace will not be kept, unless a very large majority of mankind unite together to defend them and show themselves possessed of a constabulary power before which barbaric and atavistic forces will stand in awe.

Winston Churchill, chancellor's address, University of Bristol, Bristol, England, July 2, 1938.—Winston S. Churchill: His Complete Speeches, 1897-1963, ed. Robert Rhodes James, vol. 6, p. 5991 (1974).

Unity

Even though this is late in an election year, there is no way we can go forward except together and no way anybody can win except by serving the people's urgent needs. We cannot stand still or slip backwards. We must go forward now together.

President Gerald R. Ford, remarks on taking the oath of office, August 9, 1974.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Gerald R. Ford, 1974, p. 2.

Unity

For the strength of the Pack is the Wolf, and the strength of the Wolf is the Pack.

Rudyard Kipling,

"The Law of the Jungle,"

The Second Jungle Book, p. 29 (1899).

Unity

I am a part of all whom I have met.

Alfred Lord Tennyson

Unity

I believe that our Great Maker is preparing the world, in His own good time, to become one nation, speaking one language.

Grover Cleveland

Inaugural, March 4, 1893.

Unity

In union there is strength.

Aesop, fable, "The Bundle of Sticks," Aesop's Fables, with drawings by Fritz Kredel, p. 122 (1947)."Union gives strength" is the version in The Fables of Aesop, ed. Joseph Jacobs, p. 87 (1964).

Unity

It manus in gyrum; paullatim singnla vires

Deperdunt proprias; color est E pluribus unus.

Spins round the stirring hand; lose by degrees

Their separate powers the parts, and comes at last

From many several colors one that rules.

Virgil, "Moretum," lines 103-4, The Works of Virgil, trans. into English verse by John Augustine Wilstach, vol. 1, p. 123 (1884).Moretum literally means garden herbs. From Virgil's minor poems, this is a tribute "to common things and plebian associations. The lines are laudatory of early habits and rustic poverty. They close with a description of the ingredients and mode of preparation of a salad composed of garlic, parsley, rue, and onions, seasoned with cheese, salt, coriander, and vinegar, and finally sprinkled with oil.

"The poem is a brief one, of uncertain, but probably early date. But, brief as it is, and insignificant as it seems to be, certain of its words formulate the talisman of our National Government." So that we may say, with probable truth, that, in describing an Italian salad, a frugal shepherd of the Roman Republic dictated that motto [E pluribus unum] which has served as the symbol of union for States in a hemisphere then unknown, for a Republic which uses, with enthusiasm, even the language of that illustrious government to which it is indebted, under so many forms, for safe precedents and wise examples" (p. 124).

Unity

O true believers, take your necessary precautions against your enemies, and either go forth to war in separate parties, or go forth all together in a body.

The Koran

Chapter 4

Unity

One composed of many.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Minor Poems, Moretum, 104

Unity

The immediate purpose with which Italians and Germans effected the great change in the European constitution was unity, not liberty. They constructed, not securities, but forces. Machiavelli's hour had come.

Lord Acton (John E. E. Dalberg)

The History of Freedom and Other Essays, Introduction to Il Principe.

Unity

Union gives strength.

Aesop

Unity

United we stand, divided we furnish big headlines for Pravda.

In a Nutshell

Unity

We are all driven into the same fold.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Odes, II, iii, 25

Unity

What we need in the United States is not division. What we need in the United States is not hatred. What we need in the United States is not violence or lawlessness, but love and wisdom and compassion toward one another, and a feeling of justice toward those who still suffer within our country whether they be white or they be black. Let us dedicate ourselves to what the Greeks wrote so many years ago: To tame the savageness of man and make gentle the life of this world. Let us dedicate ourselves to that and say a prayer for our country and our people.

Senator Robert F. Kennedy. One of the inscriptions at the Robert F. Kennedy gravesite in Arlington National Cemetery.These words are taken from his extemporaneous eulogy of Martin Luther King, Jr., given at the airport in Indianapolis, Indiana, April 4, 1968.—Robert F Kennedy: Promises to Keep, sel. Arthur Wortman and Richard Rhodes, p. 33 (1969) The printed version lacks the first two sentences above and a few words of the third, and there are other minor variations in wording.

The quotation from the Greeks has been attributed to Aeschylus but has not been found in his works.

Unity

Gettysburg Address

Fourscore and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field as a final resting place for those who gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this. But, in a larger sense, we cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here have consecrated it far above our poor power to add or to detract. The world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us, the living, rather to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far nobly so advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion; that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain; that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom; and that government of the people, by the people, for the people shall not perish from the earth.

Abraham Lincoln

Universe

A man said to the universe, "Sir, I exist." "However," replied the universe, "the fact has not created in me a sense of obligation."

Stephen Crane

Universe

Before heaven and earth had taken form all was vague and amorphous. Therefore it was called the Great Beginning. The Great Beginning produced emptiness and emptiness produced the universe…. The combined essences of heaven and earth became the four seasons, and the scattered essences of the four seasons became the myriad creatures of the world.

Huai-Nan Tzu

Universe

Farewell, Morning Star, herald of dawn, and quickly come as the Evening Star, bringing again in secret her whom thou takest away.

Meleager

Greek Anthology, J.W. Mackail, Sec. 1, no. 21

Universe

I accept the Universe.\*

(Sarah) Margaret Fuller, Marchioness Ossoli

Quoted in Bell Gale Chevigny,

The Woman and the Myth (1976)

[\*"By God, she'd better!"—Carlyle]

Universe

My kingdom is as wide as the universe and my wants have no limits. I go forward always, freeing spirits and weighing worlds, without fear, without compassion, without love, without God. I am called Science.

Gustave Flaubert (1821-1880)

The Temptation of St. Antony (1848)

Universe

One universe made up of all that is; and one God in it all, and one principle of being, and one law, the reason, shared by all thinking creatures, and one truth.

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

Meditations, VII, 9

Universe

Perish the universe, so long I have my revenge.

Cyrano de Bergerac (1620-1655)

La Mort d'Agrippine (1653), Act 4

Universe

Taken as a whole, the universe is absurd.

Walter Savage Landor

Universe

The first principles of the universe are atoms and empty space; everything else is merely thought to exist.

Democritus (460 B.C.?-370 B.C.?)

Universe

The glory of Him who moves everything penetrates through the universe, and is resplendent in one part more and in another less.

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy. Paradiso, canto I, 1

Universe

The universe is one of God's thoughts.

Friedrich Schiller

Urbanization

Men come together in cities in order to live: they remain together in order to live the good life.

Aristotle

Urbanization

Town life nourishes and perfects all the more civilized elements in man—Shakespeare wrote nothing but doggerel lampoon before he came to London.

Oscar Wilde

Values

A bar of iron costs $5, made into horseshoes its worth is $12, made into needles its worth is $3500, made into balance springs for watches, its worth is $300,000. Your own value is determined also by what you are able to make of yourself.

Author Unknown

Values

A man who dares to waste one hour of time has not discovered the value of life.

Charles Darwin

Values

Be ashamed to die until you have won some victory for humanity.

Horace Mann, baccalaureate address, Antioch College, Yellow Springs, Ohio, 1859.—Life and Works of Horace Mann, ed. Mrs. Mary Mann, vol. 1, p. 575 (1868)."The motivating principle of Mann's life was nowhere better or more clearly expressed than in the oft-quoted words with which he closed his last Commencement address at Antioch College."—Dictionary of American Biography, vol. 6, p. 243. Mann died a few weeks later. He had served in Congress 1848-1853.

Values

Beware of rashness, but with energy, and sleepless vigilance, go forward and give us victories.

President Abraham Lincoln, letter to General Joseph Hooker, January 26, 1863.—The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P Basler, vol. 6, p. 79 (1953).

Values

By labor may the value of silver be measured as well as other things…. Trade in general being nothing else but the exchange of labor for labor, the value of things is, as I have said before, most justly measured by labor.

Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790)

A Modest Inquiry Into the Nature and Necessity of a Paper Currency, (April 3, 1729).

Values

He who complies with the ways of the world may be impoverished thereby; he who does not, appears deranged. Wherever one may live, whatever work one may do, is it possible even for a moment to find a haven for the body or peace for the mind?

Kamo No Chomei

Hojoki (An Account of My Hut)

Values

I would say to the House, as I said to those who have joined this Government: "I have nothing to offer but blood, toil, tears and sweat."….You ask, what is our aim? I can answer in one word: It is victory, victory at all costs, victory in spite of all terror, victory, however long and hard the road may be; for without victory, there is no survival.

Winston Churchill, speech, House of Commons, May 13, 1940.—Winston S. Churchill: His Complete Speeches, 1897-1963, ed. Robert Rhodes James, vol. 6, p. 6220 (1974).

Values

It is not our affluence, or our plumbing, or our clogged freeways that grip the imagination of others. Rather, it is the values upon which our system is built. These values imply our adherence not only to liberty and individual freedom, but also to international peace, law and order, and constructive social purpose. When we depart from these values, we do so at our peril.

Senator J. William Fulbright, remarks in the Senate, June 29, 1961, Congressional Record, vol. 107, p. 11703.

Values

No retreat. No retreat. They must conquer or die who've no retreat.

John Gay, "We've Cheated the Parson" (song), Polly: an Opera, air 46, act 11, scene x, The Poetical Works of John Gay, ed. John Underhill, vol. 2, p. 336 (1893).

Values

The people who remained victorious were less like conquerors than conquered.

St. Augustine, The City of God, book 3, chapter 19.—The Works of Aurelius Augustine, ed. Marcus Dods, vol. 1, pp. 119-20 (1871). De Civitate Dei was written 413-426.

Victory

There's an old saying that victory has 100 fathers and defeat is an orphan.

President John F. Kennedy,

referring to the Bay of Pigs disaster,

press conference, April 21, 1961.

—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States:

John F Kennedy, 1961, p. 312.

Values

Upon the fields of friendly strife

Are sown the seeds

That, upon other fields, on other days

Will bear the fruits of victory.

General Douglas Macarthur, Reminiscences, p. 82 (1964).MacArthur wrote these lines while superintendent of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, 1919-1922, and had them engraved over the entrance to the gymnasium.

Values

What is valuable is not new, and what is new is not valuable.

Daniel Webster

Values

Yes, experience is a great teacher,

And our wealth would exceed tons of gold

If we learned all the good from experience

And the bad from just "being told."

Dean Nethercott Olson

Vanity

A man must have a good deal of vanity who believes, and a good deal of boldness who affirms, that all the doctrines he holds are true, and all he rejects are false.

Benjamin Franklin

Vanity

Display is as false as it is costly.

Benjamin Franklin

Vanity

Provided a man is not mad, he can be cured of every folly but vanity.

Jean Jacques Rousseau

Vice

He who finds pleasure in vice and pain in virtue, is still a novice in both.

Chinese Proverb

Vice

Impatient people are like the bees; they kill themselves in stinging others.

Francis Bacon

Vice

King Heroin is my shepherd, I shall always want. He maketh me to lie down in the gutters. He leadeth me beside the troubled waters. He destroyeth my soul. He leadeth me in the paths of wickedness for the effort's sake. Yea, I shall walk through the valley of poverty and will fear all evil for thou, Heroin, art with me. Thy needle and capsule try to comfort me. Thou strippest the table of groceries in the presence of my family. Thou robbest my head of reason. My cup of sorrow runneth over. Surely heroin addiction shall stalk me all the days of my life and I will dwell in the House of the Damned forever.

Author unknown, "The Psalm of the Addict."—Congressional Record, July 31, 1971, vol. 117, p. 28511.A newspaper clipping of this was found with the body of a young woman suicide in Rockingham County, North Carolina, and it was subsequently reprinted in an editorial in the Morganton, North Carolina, News-Herald, May 12, 1971.

Vice

The fact is that my native land is a prey to barbarism, that in it men's only God is their belly, that they live only for the present, and that the richer a man is the holier he is held to be.

St. Jerome

Letter, 7

Vice

The virtues of the heathen, being devoid of grace, can only be looked upon as splendid vices.

Quintus Septimius Tertullian

De Carne Christi, 1

Vice

Vice is a monster of so frightful mien

As to be hated, needs but to be seen;

Yet seen too oft, familiar with her face,

We first endure, then pity, then embrace.

Alexander Pope

Vice

We can endure neither our evils nor their cures.

Livy [Titus Livius]

History, Prologue

Vice

We make a ladder of our vices, if we trample those same vices underfoot.

St. Augustine

Sermons 3

Vice

Women and wine, game and deceit

Make the wealth small and the wants great.

Benjamin Franklin

Sin/Vice

What maintains one vice would bring up two children.

Benjamin Franklin

Victory

Victories that are cheap are cheap. Those only are worth having which come as the result of hard fighting.

Henry Ward Beecher

Victory/Defeat

Even victors are by victory undone.

John Dryden

Victory/Defeat

Every age is fed on illusions, lest man should renounce life early and the human race come to an end.

Joseph Conrad (né Korzeniowski)

Victory (1915)

Victory/Defeat

On the day of victory no one is tired.

Arab proverb

Victory/Defeat

Rejoice, we are victorious.

Pheidippides

Salutando 3

Victory/Defeat

There is only one decisive victory: the last. All that precede it, however great they may be, amount to nothing but an expenditure of energy which imperils the chances of winning the decisive final battle.

Karl von Clausewitz

On War, Book 6, Ch. 26, Arming the Nation.

Victory/Defeat

Victory shifts from man to man.

Homer

The Iliad, VI, 339

Victory/Defeat

You know how to win a victory, Hannibal, but not how to use it.

Maharbal [Barca the Carthaginian]

Vietnam War

A spirit of national masochism prevails, encouraged by an effete corps of impudent snobs who characterize themselves as intellectuals.

Vice President Spiro T. Agnew, speech at a Republican fund-raising dinner, New Orleans, Louisiana, October 19, 1969.—Collected Speeches of Spiro Agnew p. 55 (1971). Vietnam War

Vietnam War

But also out here in this dreary, difficult war, I think history will record that this may have been one of America's finest hours, because we took a difficult task and we succeeded.

President Richard M. Nixon, remarks to American troops of the First Infantry Division, Di An, Vietnam, July 30, 1969.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Richard Nixon, 1969, p. 588.

Vietnam War

I am convinced that the French could not win the war because the internal political situation in Vietnam, weak and confused, badly weakened their military position. I have never talked or corresponded with a person knowledgeable in Indochinese affairs who did not agree that had elections been held as of the time of the fighting, possibly 80 per cent of the population would have voted for the Communist Ho Chi Minh as their leader rather than Chief of State Bao Dai. Indeed, the lack of leadership and drive on the part of Bao Dai was a factor in the feeling prevalent among Vietnamese that they had nothing to fight for. As one Frenchman said to me, "What Vietnam needs is another Syngman Rhee, regardless of all the difficulties the presence of such a personality would entail."

Dwight D. Eisenhower, The White House Years, vol. 1, p. 372 (1963).

Vietnam War

I don't think that unless a greater effort is made by the Government to win popular support that the war can be won out there. In the final analysis, it is their war. They are the ones who have to win it or lose it. We can help them, we can give them equipment, we can send our men out there as advisers, but they have to win it, the people of Vietnam, against the Communists.

President John F. Kennedy, televised interview with Walter Cronkite, September 2, 1963.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: John F Kennedy, 1963, p. 652.

Vietnam War

I have been among the officers who have said that a large land war in Asia is the last thing we should undertake. Most of us, when we use that term, are thinking about getting into a land war against Red China. That's the only power in Asia which would require us to use forces in very large numbers. I was slow in joining with those who recommended the introduction of ground forces in South Vietnam. But it became perfectly clear that because of the rate of infiltration from North Vietnam to South Vietnam something had to be done.

General Maxwell D. Taylor, interview, "Top Authority Looks at Vietnam War and Its Future," US. News & World Report, February 21, 1966, p. 42.

Vietnam War

I would rather be a one-term President and do what I believe is right than to be a two-term President at the cost of seeing America become a second-rate power and to see this Nation accept the first defeat in its proud 190-year history.

President Richard M. Nixon, address to the nation on the situation in Southeast Asia, April 30, 1970.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Richard Nixon, 1970, p. 410.

Vietnam War

If, when the chips are down, the world's most powerful nation, the United States of America, acts like a pitiful, helpless giant, the forces of totalitarianism and anarchy will threaten free nations and free institutions throughout the world.

President Richard M. Nixon, address to the nation on the situation in Southeast Asia, April 30, 1970.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Richard Nixon, 1970, p. 409.

Vietnam War

In Asia we face an ambitious and aggressive China, but we have the will and we have the strength to help our Asian friends resist that ambition. Sometimes our folks get a little impatient. Sometimes they rattle their rockets some, and they bluff about their bombs. But we are not about to send American boys 9 or 10,000 miles away from home to do what Asian boys ought to be doing for themselves.

President Lyndon B. Johnson, remarks at Akron University, Akron, Ohio, October 21, 1964.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Lyndon B. Johnson, 1963-64, book 2, pp. 1390-91.

Vietnam War

It became necessary to destroy the town to save it.

Author unknown. An unnamed major in the U.S. Army said this about the decision to bomb and shell the town of Bentre, according to an Associated Press dispatch.—The New York Times, February 8, 1968, p. 14.

Vietnam War

The Communist leaders in Moscow, Peking and Hanoi must fully understand that the United States considers the freedom of South Viet Nam vital to our interests. And they must know that we are not bluffing in our determination to defend those interests.

Representative Gerald R. Ford, "U.S. Foreign Policy: New Myths and Old Realities," address to the National Press Club, Washington, D.C., July 21, 1965.—Gerald B. Ford, Selected Speeches, ed. Michael V. Doyle, p. 199 (1973).

Vietnam War

The war the soldiers tried to stop.

John F. Kerry, commenting on how Vietnam would be known to future generations, at rally of antiwar demonstrators, west front of the Capitol, April 24, 1971, as reported by The Evening Star, Washington, D.C., April 26, 1971, p. A-7. Kerry, a former Navy lieutenant who was the spokesman for Vietnam Veterans Against the War, was elected to the Senate in 1984.

Vietnam War

We cannot remain silent on Vietnam. We should remember that whatever victory there may be possible, it will have a racial stigma…. It will always be the case of a predominantly white power killing an Asian nation. We are interested in peace, not just for Christians but for the whole of humanity.

Eugene Carson Blake, remarks at a World Council of Churches meeting, Geneva, Switzerland, February 12, 1966, as reported in The Sunday Star Washington, D.C., February 13, 1966, p. A-5.

Vietnam War

With 450,000 U.S. troops now in Vietnam, it is time that Congress decided whether or not to declare a state of war exists with North Vietnam. Previous congressional resolutions of support provide only limited authority. Although Congress may decide that the previously approved resolution on Vietnam given President Johnson is sufficient, the issue of a declaration of war should at least be put before the Congress for decision.

Dwight D. Eisenhower, remarks to Republican congressmen, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, July 15, 1967, published in a paraphrased form in The Washington Post, July 22, 1967, p. 1.

Violence

I feel that we will continue to have a non-violent movement, and we will continue to find the vast majority of Negroes committed to non-violence, at least as the best tactical approach and from a pragmatic point of view as the best strategy in dealing with the problem of racial injustice. Realism impels me to admit, however, that when there is justice and the pursuit of justice, violence appears, and where there is injustice and frustration, the potentialities for violence are greater, and I would like to strongly stress the point that the more we can achieve victories through non-violence, the more it will be possible to keep the non-violent discipline at the center of the movement. But the more we find individuals facing conditions of frustration, conditions of disappointment and seething despair as a result of the slow pace of things and the failure to change conditions, the more it will be possible for the apostles of violence to interfere.

Martin Luther King, Jr., televised interview, "Meet the Press," March 28, 1965.—Transcript, p. 9.

Violence

I'd hate to be in those [slum] conditions and I'll tell you if I were in those conditions, you'd have more trouble than you have already because I've got enough spark left in me to lead a mighty good revolt.

Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey, speech to the National Association of Counties in New Orleans, Louisiana, July 18, 1966, as reported by The Times-Picayune, New Orleans, July 19, 1966, p. 18.

Violence

Lawlessness is lawlessness. Anarchy is anarchy. Neither race nor color nor frustration is an excuse for either lawlessness or anarchy.

Thurgood Marshall, U.S. solicitor general, speech at the national convention of Alpha Phi Alpha, St. Louis, Missouri, August 15, 1966, as reported by the St. Louis GlobeDemocrat, August 17, 1966, p. 1.

Violence

Our most serious challenges to date have been external—the kind this strong and resourceful country could unite against. While serious external dangers remain, the graver threats today are internal: haphazard urbanization, racial discrimination, disfiguring of the environment, unprecedented interdependence, the dislocation of human identity and motivation created by an affluent society—all resulting in a rising tide of individual and group violence.

To Establish Justice, to Insure Domestic Tranquility, final report of the National Commission on the Causes and Prevention of Violence, p. xxxii (1960).Dr. Milton S. Eisenhower was chairman of the commission.

Violence

Terror is nothing else than justice, prompt, secure and inflexible!

Maximilien de Robespierre

Violence

The ultimate weakness of violence is that it is a descending spiral, begetting the very thing it seeks to destroy. Instead of diminishing evil, it multiplies it. Through violence you may murder the liar, but you cannot murder the lie, nor establish the truth. Through violence you may murder the hater, but you do not murder hate. In fact, violence merely increases hate. So it goes. Returning violence for violence multiplies violence, adding deeper darkness to a night already devoid of stars. Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that.

Martin Luther King, Jr., Where Do We Go from Here: Chaos or Community?, pp. 62-63 (1967).

Violence

The use of violence as an instrument of persuasion is therefore inviting and seems to the discontented to be the only effective protest.

Justice William O. Douglas, Points of Rebellion, p. 78 (1970).

Violence

Violence has no constitutional sanction; and every government from the beginning has moved against it. But where grievances pile high and most of the elected spokesmen represent the establishment, violence may be the only effective response.

Justice William O. Douglas, Points of Rebellion, pp. 88-89 (1970).

Violence

Violence is as American as cherry pie.

H. Rap Brown, press conference at the Student Nonviolent Co-ordinating Committee headquarters, Washington, D.C., July 27, 1967, as reported by The Evening Star Washington, D.C., July 27, 1967, p. 1.

Violence

Whatever little we have gained we have gained by agitation, while we have uniformly lost by moderation.

Daniel O'Connell

Virtue

A Bible and a newspaper in every house, a good school in every district—all studied and appreciated as they merit—are the principal support of virtue, morality and civil liberty.

Benjamin Franklin

Virtue

Few men have virtue to withstand the highest bidder.

George Washington

Virtue

Fine words and an insinuating appearance are seldom associated with true virtue.

Confucius

Virtue

God will certainly reward virtue and punish vice, either here or hereafter.

Benjamin Franklin

Virtue

He who possesses virtue in abundance may be compared to an infant.

Lao Tse

Virtue

I have not seen a man who loved virtue, or one who hated what was not virtuous. He who love virtue would esteem nothing above it.

Confucius

Virtue

If the rascals knew the advantages of virtue they would become honest men.

Benjamin Franklin

Virtue

Is virtue a thing remote? I wish to be virtuous, and lo! virtue is at hand.

Confucius

Virtue

Nobility is the one and only virtue.

Juvenal

Virtue

To live content with small means;

To seek elegance rather than luxury,

and refinement rather than fashion,

To be worthy, not respectable,

and wealthy, not rich;

To study hard, think quietly, talk gently, act frankly;

To listen to stars and birds,

to babes and sages, with open heart;

To bear all cheerfully, do all bravely,

await occasion, hurry never;

In a word, to let the spiritual,

unbidden and unconscious, grow up

through the common—this is to be my symphony.

William Ellery Channing

Virtue

The determined scholar and the man of virtue will not seek to live at the expense of injuring their virtue. They will even sacrifice their lives to present their virtue complete.

Confucius

Virtue

The end of life is to be like God, and the soul following God will be like Him.

Socrates

Virtue

The firm, the enduring, the simple, and the modest are near to virtue.

Confucius

Virtue

The man of virtue makes the difficulty to be overcome his first business, and success only a subsequent consideration.

Confucius

Virtue

The prime virtue in life is courage, because it makes all the other virtues possible.

Winston Churchill

Virtue

There is never an instant's truce between virtue and vice.

Henry David Thoreau

Virtue

There was never a truly great man that was not at the same time truly virtuous.

Benjamin Franklin

Virtue

To be able to practice five things everywhere under heaven constitutes perfect virtue… [They are] gravity, generosity of soul, sincerity, earnestness, and kindness.

Confucius

The Confucian Analects, 17:6

Virtue

To produce things and to rear them,

To produce, but not to take possession of them,

To act, but not to rely on one's own ability,

To lead them, but not to master them—

This is called profound and secret virtue.

Lao Tzu

The Way of Lao Tzu 10

Virtue

Virtue and vice are both prophets; the first of certain good; the second, of pain or else of repentance.

R. Venning

Virtue

Virtue is harder to be got than knowledge of the world; and, if lost in a young man, is seldom recovered.

John Locke

Virtue

Virtue is more to man than either water or fire. I have seen men die from treading on water and fire, but I have never seen a man die from treading the course of virtue.

Confucius

Virtue

Virtue is not hereditary.

Thomas Paine

Virtue

Virtue is not left to stand alone. He who practices it will have neighbors.

Confucius

Virtue

What counts most in the long haul of adult life is not brilliance or eloquence or derring-do, but a quality called 'Gravitas'—patience, stamina, weight of judgment.

Roman Observers

Virtue

When a man's knowledge is sufficient to attain, and his virtue is not sufficient to enable him to hold, whatever he may have gained we will lose again.

Confucius

Virtue/Vice

If she love me, this believe,

I will die ere she shall grieve;

If she slight me when I woo,

I can scorn and let her go;

For if she be not for me,

What care I for whom she be?

George Wither

Fair Virtue, Sonnet 4, 5

Virtue/Vice

Most men admire

Virtue who follow not her lore.

John Milton

Paradise Regained, I, 482

Virtue/Vice

And virtue, though in rags, will keep me warm.

John Dryden

Imitation of Horace, III, 29, 87

Virtue/Vice

Axiom: Hatred of the Bourgeois is the beginning of virtue. But for me the term "Bourgeois" includes the bourgeois in overalls as well as the bourgeois who wears a frock coat. It is we, and we alone—that is, the educated—who are the People, or, more accurately, the tradition of Humanity.

Gustave Flaubert (1821-1880)

Letters, To George sand, May 10, 1867

Virtue/Vice

Be virtuous and you will be eccentric.

Mark Twain

Virtue/Vice

Consider your origin; you were not born to live like brutes, but to follow virtue and knowledge.

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy, Canto XXVI, 118

Virtue/Vice

For a good cause, wrongdoing is virtuous.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 244

Virtue/Vice

For in the fatness of these pursy times

Virtue itself of vice must pardon beg.

William Shakespeare

Hamlet, III, iv, 153

Virtue/Vice

Good company and good discourse are the very sinews of virtue.

Izaak Walton

The Compleat Angler, I, 2

Virtue/Vice

Her virtue and the conscience of her worth,

That would be woo'd, and not unsought be won.

John Milton

Paradise Lost, VIII, 502

Virtue/Vice

I call not that virginity a virtue, which resideth onely in the bodies integrity; much less if it be with a purpose of perpetually keeping it: for then it is a most inhumane vice—But I call that Virginity a virtue which is willing and desirous to yield it self upon honest and lawfull terms, when just reason requireth; and until then, is kept with a modest chastity of body and mind.

John Donne (1573-1631)

Paradoxes and Problems, X

Virtue/Vice

I prefer an accommodating vice to an obstinate virtue.

Molière [Jean Baptiste Poquelin]

Amphitryon, I, 4

Virtue/Vice

If everyone were clothed with integrity, if every heart were just, frank, kindly, the other virtues would be well nigh useless, since their chief purpose is to make us bear with patience the injustice of our fellows.

Molière [Jean Baptiste Poquelin]

Le Misanthrope, V, 1

Virtue/Vice

Let the blessing of St. Peter's Master be…upon all that are lovers of virtue, and dare trust in his Providence, and be quiet and go a-angling.

Izaak Walton

The Compleat Angler, I, 21

Virtue/Vice

Let them look upon virtue and pine because they have lost her.

Persius [Aulus Persius Flaccus]

Satires, III, 38

Virtue/Vice

Machiavel says virtue and riches seldom settle on one man.

Robert Burton

Anatomy of Melancholy, II, 2, 2

Virtue/Vice

Men of most renowned virtue have sometimes by transgressing most truly kept the law.

John Milton

Tetrachordon

Virtue/Vice

No one can harm the man who does himself no wrong.

St. John Chrysostom

Letter to Olympia

Virtue/Vice

Sell not virtue to purchase wealth, nor liberty to purchase power.

Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790)

Poor Richard's Almanac, 1738

Virtue/Vice

Some people with great virtues are disagreeable, while others with great vices are delightful.

Duc de la Rochefoucauld

Virtue/Vice

Some rise by sin, and some by virtue fall.

William Shakespeare

Measure for Measure, II, i, 38

Virtue/Vice

Successful and fortunate crime is called virtue.

Lucius Annaeus Seneca

Ibid., 255

Virtue/Vice

Sweet spring, full of sweet days and roses,

A box where sweets compacted lie.

George Herbert

The Temple. Virtue, 3

Virtue/Vice

The Master said, "It is only the (truly) virtuous man, who can love, or who can hate, others."

Confucius (551-479 B.C.)

Confucian Analects (tr. James Legge), Bk. IV, 3

Virtue/Vice

The Master said, "The man of virtue makes the difficult to be overcome his first business, and success only a subsequent consideration;—this may be called perfect virtue."

Confucius (551-479 B.C.)

Confucian Analects (tr. James Legge), Bk. VI, 20

Virtue/Vice

The pure in life and free from sin.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Odes, I, xxii, 1

Virtue/Vice

The virtues of society are vices of the saint.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Essays: First Series (1841)

Virtue/Vice

There are some jobs in which it is impossible for a man to be virtuous.

Aristotle

Virtue/Vice

There is no virtue that poverty destroyeth not.

John (Giovanni) Florio (1553?-1625)

Second Frutes (1591)

Virtue/Vice

This or the like was the cause of the death of a man [Nicias] who, of all the Greeks in my time, least deserved such a fate, for he had lived in the practice of every virtue.

Thucydides

The History of the Peloponnesian War, VIII, 86

Virtue/Vice

Virtue can have naught to do with ease….It craves a steep and thorny path.

Michel Eyquem de Montaigne

Essays, II, 11

Virtue/Vice

Virtue has need of limits.

Baron de Montesquieu

Virtue/Vice

Virtue is bold, and goodness never fearful.

William Shakespeare

Measure for Measure, III, i, 214

Virtue/Vice

Virtue is its own reward.

John Dryden

Virtue/Vice

Virtue is like a rich stone—best plain set.

Sir Francis Bacon

Essays, Of Beauty

Virtue/Vice

Virtue itself turns vice, being misapplied;

And vice sometime's by action dignified.

William Shakespeare

Romeo and Juliet, II, iii, 21

Virtue/Vice

Virtue, perhaps, is nothing more than politeness of soul.

Honore de Balzac

Virtue/Vice

We give to necessity the praise of virtue.

Quintilian [Marcus Fabius Quintilianus]

De Institutione Oratoria, I, 8, 14

Vocation

It is well for a man to respect his vocation whatever it is, and to think himself bound to uphold it, and claim for it the respect it deserves.

Charles Dickens

Vocation

We work not only to produce but to give value to time.

Eugene Delacroix

Voters/Voting

Bad officials are elected by good citizens who do not vote.

George Jean Nathan.—Clifton Fadiman, The American Treasury, 1455-1955, p. 344 (1955). Unverified in Nathan's works.

Voters/Voting

I am of the opinion that all who can should vote for the most intelligent, honest, and conscientious men eligible to office, irrespective of former party opinions, who will endeavour to make the new constitutions and the laws passed under them as beneficial as possible to the true interests, prosperity, and liberty of all classes and conditions of the people.

Robert E. Lee, letter to General James Longstreet, October 29, 1867.—Recollections and Letters of General Robert E. Lee, p. 269 (1924).

Voters/Voting

I believe that there are societies in which every man may safely be admitted to vote…. I say, sir, that there are countries in which the condition of the labouring-classes is such that they may safely be intrusted with the right of electing members of the Legislature…. Universal suffrage exists in the United States without producing any very frightful consequences.

Thomas Babington Macaulay, speech in Parliament on parliamentary reform, March 2, 1831.—Macaulay, Speeches, Parliamentary and Miscellaneous, vol. 1, pp. 12-13 (1853).

Voters/Voting

I would relate to the crowds how I called on a certain rural constituent and was shocked to hear him say he was thinking of voting for my opponent. I reminded him of the many things I had done for him as prosecuting attorney, as county judge, as congressman, and senator. I recalled how I had helped get an access road built to his farm, how I had visited him in a military hospital in France when he was wounded in World War I, how I had assisted him in securing his veteran's benefits, how I had arranged his loan from the Farm Credit Administration, how I had got him a disaster loan when the flood destroyed his home, etc., etc.

"How can you think of voting for my opponent?" I exhorted at the end of this long recital. "Surely you remember all these things I have done for you?"

"Yeah," he said, "I remember. But what in hell have you done for me lately?"

Alben W. Barkley, That Reminds Me—, p. 165 (1954).Barkley first told this story during his 1938 campaign for renomination as Kentucky's Democratic candidate for the United States Senate.

Voters/Voting

In times of stress and strain, people will vote.

Author unknown.

Attributed to parliamentary debates, Great Britain, 1857. Unverified.

Voters/Voting

Our mission is at once the oldest and the most basic of this country: to right wrong, to do justice, to serve man…. Because all Americans just must have the right to vote. And we are going to give them that right. All Americans must have the privileges of citizenship regardless of race. And they are going to have those privileges of citizenship regardless of race.

President Lyndon B. Johnson, "The American Promise," delivered to a joint session of Congress, March 15, 1965.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Lyndon B. Johnson, 1965, book 1, pp. 281, 286.He was talking about the civil rights bill he was about to present to Congress.

Voters/Voting

Perhaps America will one day go fascist democratically, by popular vote.

William L. Shirer, as reported by The New York Times, December 29, 1969, p. 36.

Voters/Voting

The margin is narrow, but the responsibility is clear.

President-elect John F. Kennedy, press conference, November 10, 1963.—Transcript, The New York Times, November 11, 1963, p. 20. In Theodore Sorensen's Kennedy (1965), these words are followed by "There may be difficulties with the Congress, but a margin of only one vote would still be a mandate" (p. 219).

Voters/Voting

The right of voting for representatives is the primary right by which other rights are protected. To take away this right is to reduce a man to slavery, for slavery consists in being subject to the will of another, and he that has not a vote in the election of representatives is in this case.

Thomas Paine, "Dissertation on First Principles of Government," The Writings of Thomas Paine, ed. Moncure D. Conway, vol. 3, p. 267 (1895). Originally published in 1795.

Voters/Voting

To give the victory to the right, not bloody bullets, but peaceful ballots only, are necessary.

Abraham Lincoln, speech c. May 18, 1858.—Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Roy P Basler, vol. 2, p. 454 (1953).

Other uses of his contrast of ballots and bullets can be found in his message to Congress of July 4, 1861, "That ballots are the rightful, and peaceful, successors of bullets; and that when ballots have fairly, and constitutionally, decided, there can be no successful appeal, back to bullets" (vol. 4, p. 439); and in a letter to James C. Conkling, August 26, 1863, "There can be no successful appeal from the ballot to the bullet" (vol. 6, p. 410).

In The Writings of Abraham Lincoln, ed. Arthur Brooks Lapsley (1905), there is a reconstruction, forty years later, of a speech to the first Republican state convention of Illinois, Bloomington, Illinois, May 29, 1856, in which this sentence appears: "Do not mistake that the ballot is stronger than the bullet" (vol. 2, p. 269). This lengthy reconstruction was not "worthy of serious consideration," in the opinion of Basler (Collected Works, vol.2, p.341).

Voters/Voting

VOTE, n. The instrument and symbol of a freeman's power to make a fool of himself and a wreck of his country.

Ambrose Bierce, The Devil's Dictionary, p. 359 (1948). Originally published in 1906 as The Cynic's Word Book.

Voters/Voting

We'd all like t'vote fer th'best man, but he's never a candidate.

Kin Hubbard, The Best of Kin Hubbard, part 1, p. 14 (1984).

The sayings of Abe Martin, Hubbard's rural sage, appeared from 1904-1930 in many newspapers.

Voters/Voting

The ballot is stronger than the bullet.

Abraham Lincoln

Voters/Voting

The secret ballot is a beautiful system that permits you to claim you never voted for that guy.

Doug Larson

War

"Let there be light!" said God, "and there was light!"

"Let there be blood!" says man, and there's a sea!

Lord Byron

Don Juan.

War

A people's war in civilized Europe is a phenomenon of the Nineteenth century….A people's war in general is to be regarded as a consequence of the way in which in our day the elemental violence of war has burst its old artificial barriers as an expression and strengthening, therefore, of the whole ferment which we call war.

Karl von Clausewitz

On War, Book 6, Ch. 26, Arming the Nation.

War

A riot is a spontaneous outburst. A war is subject to advance planning.

Richard M. Nixon, address before the National Association of Manufacturers, New York City, December 8, 1967.—James J. Kilpatrick quoted a transcript in his syndicated column in The Evening Star, Washington, D.C., December 26, 1967, p. A13. Nixon's topic was "the war in our cities."

War

A time will come when a politician who has wilfully made war and promoted international dissension will be as sure of the dock and much surer of the noose than a private homicide. It is not reasonable that those who gamble with men's lives should not stake their own.

H. G. Wells, The Salvaging of Civilization, chapter 1, conclusion, p. 40 (1921).

War

Accurst be he that first invented war.

Christopher Marlowe

Tamburlaine the Great, pt. I. l. 664

War

….I saw these terrible things, and took great part in them.

…quaeque ipse miserrima vidi et quorum pars magna fui.)

Virgil, The Aeneid, trans. James H. Mantinband, book 2, lines 5-6, p. 25 (1964).

This sentence has also been translated as: "All of which misery I saw, and a great part of which I was." Aeneas was describing the sack of Troy.

War

All of us who served in one war or another know very well that all wars are the glory and the agony of the young.

President Gerald R. Ford, address to the 75th annual convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, August 19, 1974.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Gerald R. Ford, 1974, p. 25.

War

Among the calamities of war, may be justly numbered the diminution of the love of truth, by the falsehoods which interest dictates, and credulity encourages.

Samuel Johnson,

The Idler: no. 30, November 11, 1758.

A more succinct version is: "The first casualty when war comes is truth," attributed to Senator Hiram Johnson, remarks in the Senate, 1918.—The Macmillan Book of Proverbs, Maxims, and Famous Phrases, ed. Burton Stevenson, p. 2445 (1948). Unverified.

War

Ancestral voices prophesying war!

Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1772-1834)

Kubla Khan (1798)

War

And while I am talking to you mothers and fathers, I give you one more assurance. I have said this before, but I shall say it again and again and again: Your boys are not going to be sent into any foreign wars.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt, campaign speech, Boston, Massachusetts, October 30, 1940.—The Public Papers and Addresses of Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1940, p. 517 (1941).

War

Another such victory over the Romans, and we are undone.

Pyrrhus

From Plutarch, Lives, Pyrrhus, sec. 21

War

Be convinced that to be happy means to be free and that to be free means to be brave. Therefore do not take lightly the perils of war.

Thucydides, "The Funeral Speech," The Speeches of Pericles, trans. H. G. Edinger, p. 39 (1979).

War

But those wars also are just, without doubt, which are ordained by God Himself, in Whom is no iniquity, and Who knows everyman's merits.

St. Augustine

Questiones in Heptateuchum.

War

C'est magnifique, mais ce n'est pas la guerre. (It is magnificient, but it isn't war.)

Pierre Francois Joseph Bosquet

At charge of the Light Brigade, 1854.

War

Defense is the stronger form with the negative object, and attack the weaker form with the positive object.

Karl von Clausewitz

On War, prefatory note.

War

Der Krieg ist nichts anderes als die Fortsetzung der Politik mit anderen Mitteln.

War is nothing else than the continuation of state policy with other means.

Karl von Clausewitz (1780-1831)

Vom Kriege [On War], Prefatory note

War

Does the cessation of diplomatic notes stop the political relations between different nations and governments? Is not war merely another kind of writing and language for their thought? It has, to be sure, its own grammar, but not its own logic.

Karl von Clausewitz

On War, Book 6, Ch. 26, Arming the Nation.

War

Even the lion has to defend himself against flies.

German proverb

War

Fierce wars and faithful loves shall moralize my song.

Edmund Spenser

The Faerie Queene, introduction, st. 1

War

Fighting in the forefront of the Greeks, the Athenians crushed at Marathon the might of the gold-bearing Medes.

Simonides

Fragment 88

War

For a war to be just three conditions are necessary—public authority, just cause, right motive.

St. Thomas Aquinas

Summa Theologica.

War

For God's sake, do not drag me into another war! I am worn down, and worn out, with crusading and defending Europe, and protecting mankind; I must think a little of myself.

Sydney Smith, letter to the Countess Grey, February 19, 1823.—A Memoir of the Rev. Sydney Smith by His Daughter Lady Holland, p. 434 (1874).

War

Force, that is to say, physical force (for no moral force exists apart from the conception of a state and law), is the means; to impose our will upon the enemy is the object. To achieve this object with certainty we must disarm the enemy, and this disarming is, by definition, the proper aim of military action.

Karl von Clausewitz

On War, Ch. 1, What is War?

War

He lives not long who battles with the immortals, nor do his children prattle about his knees when he has come back from battle and the dead fray.

Homer

The Iliad, V, 407

War

I am tired and sick of war. Its glory is all moonshine. It is only those who have neither fired a shot nor heard the shrieks and groans of the wounded who cry aloud for blood, more vengeance, more desolation. War is hell.

William T. Sherman

War

I came, I saw, I conquered.

Julius Caesar

From Suetonius, Lives of the Caesars, Julius, sec. 37

War

I have always said that a conference was held for one reason only, to give everybody a chance to get sore at everybody else. Sometimes it takes two or three conferences to scare up a war, but generally one will do it.

Will Rogers, syndicated column, July 5, 1933.—The New York Times, July 6, 1933, p. 23.

Disraeli is another who had an unsanguine view of conferences: "The Conference lasted six weeks. It wasted six weeks. It lasted as long as a Carnival, and, like a Carnival, it was an affair of masks and mystification. Our Ministers went to it as men in distressed circumstances go to a place of amusement—to while away the time, with a consciousness of impending failure."—Speech in the House of Commons on Denmark and Germany, vote of censure, July 4, 1864, Hansard's Parliamentary Debates, 3d series, vol. 176, col. 743.

War

I offer neither pay, nor quarters, nor provisions; I offer hunger, thirst, forced marches, battles, and death. Let him who loves his country in his heart and not with his lips only, follow me.

Giuseppe Garibaldi (1807-1882)

Quoted in G.M. Trevelyan, Garibaldi's Defense of the Roman Republic (1907-1911)

War

I originated a remark many years ago that I think has been copied more than any little thing that I've every said, and I used it in the FOLLIES of 1922. I said America has a unique record. We never lost a war and we never won a conference in our lives. I believe that we could without any degree of egotism, single-handed lick any nation in the world. But we can't confer with Costa Rica and come home with our shirts on.

Will Rogers.—Paula McSpadden Love, The Will Rogers Book, p. 177 (1972).

The author was a niece of Will Rogers's and curator of the Will Rogers Memorial in Claremore, Oklahoma.

War

I prefer the most unfair peace to the most righteous war. (Also translated: I prefer the most unjust peace to the justest war that was ever waged.)

Marcus Tullius Cicero

Letters to Atticus.

War

I say when you get into a war, you should win as quick as you can, because your losses become a function of the duration of the war. I believe when you get in a war, get everything you need and win it.

Dwight D. Eisenhower, news conference, Indio, California, March 15, 1968, as reported in The New York Times, March 16, 1968, p. 15.

War

I want to stand by my country, but I cannot vote for war. I vote no.

Representative Jeanette Rankin, casting her vote against the United States entering World War 1, in the early hours of April 6, 1917, as reported by The New York Times, April 6, 1917, p. 1.

Jeanette Rankin of Montana was the first woman elected to Congress, where she served 1917-1919 and 1941-1943. Not only did she vote against World War I, she was the only member of Congress to oppose declaring war on Japan in December 1941.

War

If I should die, think only this of me:

That there's some corner of a foreign field

That is forever England.

Rupert Brooke

The Soldier.

War

If we take a comprehensive view of the four components of the atmosphere in which war moves: danger, physical effort, uncertainty and chance, it is easy to understand that a great moral and mental force is needed to advance with safety and success in this baffling element, a force which, according to the different modifications arising out of circumstances, we find historians and chroniclers of military events describing as energy, firmness, staunchness, strength of mind and character. All these manifestations of the heroic nature might be regarded as one and the same force of will.

Karl von Clausewitz

On War, Ch. 3, The Genius for War.

War

In order for a war to be just, three things are necessary. First, the authority of the Sovereign…. Secondly, a just cause…. Thirdly…a rightful intention.

St. Thomas Aquinas, Summa Theologica, part II-II, question 40, article I, pp. 1359-60 (1947). Written 1266-1273.

The three conditions are sometimes paraphrased as: public authority, just cause, right motive.

War

In time of war the loudest patriots are the greatest profiteers.

August Bebel

Speech, Reichstag, November, 1870.

War

It is not unseemly for a man to die fighting in defense of his country.

Homer

The Iliad, XV, 496

War

It is waste—and worse than a waste—of effort to ignore the element of brutality because of the repugnance it excites.

Karl von Clausewitz

On War, Ch. 1, What is War?

War

Let the officers and directors of our armament factories, our gun builders and munitions makers and shipbuilders all be conscripted—to get $30 a month, the same wage paid to the lads in the trenches…. Give capital thirty days to think it over and you will learn by that time that there will be no war. That will stop the racket—that and nothing else.

Smedley D. Butler, "War Is a Racket," The Forum and Century, September 1934, p. 143.

War

Let the soldier yield to the civilian.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

Orationes Philippicae, V, c. 60 B.C.

War

Let us not hear of general who conquer without bloodshed. If a bloody slaughter is a horrible sight, then that is a ground for paying more respect to war but not for making the sword we wear blunter and blunter by degrees from feelings of humanity, until some one steps in with one that is sharp and lops off the arm from our body.

Karl von Clausewitz

On War, Book 6, Ch. 26, Arming the Nation.

War

Nations have recently been led to borrow billions for war; no nation has ever borrowed largely for education. Probably, no nation is rich enough to pay for both war and civilization. We must make our choice; we cannot have both.

Abraham Flexner, Universities, part 3, p. 302 (1930).

War

Nothing should be left to an invaded people except their eyes for weeping.

Otto von Bismarck-Schoenhausen

Attributed by Paul H. Loyson, The Gods in the Battle,

London, 1917, p.15; sometimes falsely attributed to General Sherman.

War

O Lord our Father, our young patriots, idols of our hearts, go forth to battle—be thou near them!….O Lord our God, help us to tear their soldiers to bloody shreds with our shells; help us to cover their smiling fields with the pale forms of their patriot dead: help us to drown the thunder of the guns with the shrieks of their wounded, writhing in pain; help us to lay waste their humble homes with a hurricane of fire; help us to wring the hearts of their unoffending widows with unavailing grief…. For our sakes who adore Thee, Lord, blast their hopes, blight their lives, protract their bitter pilgrimage, make heavy their steps, water their way with their tears, stain the white snow with the blood of their wounded feet! We ask it in the spirit of love, of Him who is the Source of Love, and who is the ever-faithful refuge and friend of all who are sore beset and seek His aid with humble and contrite hearts. Amen.

Samuel L. Clemens ("Mark Twain") (1835-1910)

The War Prayer (dictated c. 1904), Published posthumously

in Harper's Magazine, November 1916

War

Older men declare war. But it is youth that must fight and die. And it is youth who must inherit the tribulation, the sorrow and the triumphs that are the aftermath of war.

Herbert Hoover, address to the 23d Republican national convention, Chicago, Illinois, June 27, 1944.—Official Report of the Proceedings of the Twenty-third Republican National Convention, p. 166 (1944).

War

Once blood is shed in a national quarrel, reason and right are swept aside by the rage of angry men.

David Lloyd George, War Memoirs, vol. 2, chapter 81, p. 1815 (1942).

War

Our foes will provide us with arms.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aeneid, II, 391

War

Paulus Aemilius, on taking command of the forces in Macedonia, and finding them talkative and impertinently busy, as though they were all commanders, issued out his orders that they should have only ready hands and keen swords, and leave the rest to him.

Plutarch, Plutarch's Lives, trans. John Dryden, rev. A. H. Clough, life of Galba, vol. 5, p. 456 (1859).

War

Philanthropic souls might easily imagine that there is an artistic way of disarming or overthrowing our adversary without too much bloodshed and that this was what the art of war we should seek to achieve. However agreeable this may sound, it is a false idea which must be demolished. In affairs so dangerous as war, false ideas proceeding from kindness of heart are precisely the worst.

Karl von Clausewitz

On War, Ch. 1, What is War?

War

Revolutions are not trifles, but spring from trifles.

Aristotle

Politics, 1.

War

Sometime they'll give a war and nobody will come.

Carl Sandburg, "The People, Yes," stanza 23, line 23, The Complete Poems of Carl Sandburg, rev. and expanded ed., p. 464 (1970). First published in 1936 in The People, Yes.

War

Stand your ground. Don't fire unless fired upon, but if they mean to have a war, let it begin here.

John Parker.—George Stimpson, A Book About American History, p. 109 (1950).

Captain Parker said this to his Minutemen troops at Lexington, Massachusetts, on April 19, 1775, as they prepared to meet the British in battle. Inscription on a marker at Lexington green.

War

Stout hearts, my laddies! If the row comes, REMEMBER THE MAINE, and show the world how American sailors can fight.

Clifford K. Berryman, caption under cartoon, The Washington Post, April 3, 1898, p. 1.

On February 15, 1898, the warship Maine blew up in the harbor at Havana, Cuba. Edward T. Folliard, correspondent and historian of The Washington Post, said of Berryman's cartoon: "Thus was born the slogan and battle cry of the Spanish-American War."—The Washington Post, September 24, 1972, Potomac magazine, special section, "The Washington Post, 1972," p. 8.

War

Suffer not yourselves to be betrayed with a kiss. Ask yourselves how this gracious reception of our petition comports with those warlike preparations which cover our waters and darken our land. Are fleets and armies necessary to a work of love and reconciliation? Have we shown ourselves so unwilling to be reconciled, that force must be called in to win back our love? Let us not deceive ourselves, sir. These are the implements of war and subjugation—the last arguments to which kings resort.

Patrick Henry, speech to the Virginia Convention, Richmond, Virginia, March 23, 1775.—William Wirt, Sketches of the Life and Character of Patrick Henry, 9th ed., p. 139 (1836, reprinted 1970).

For information on the authenticity of the text of this speech, see the notes at No. 1061.

War

That's the way it is in war. You win or lose, live or die—and the difference is just an eyelash.

Douglas Macarthur, Reminiscences, p. 145 (1964).

War

The constitution supposes, what the History of all Governments demonstrates, that the Executive is the branch of power most interested in war, & most prone to it. It has accordingly with studied care, vested the question of war in the Legislature. But the Doctrines lately advanced strike at the root of all these provisions, and will deposit the peace of the Country in that Department which the Constitution distrusts as most ready without cause to renounce it. For if the opinion of the President not the facts & proofs themselves are to sway the judgment of Congress, in declaring war, and if the President in the recess of Congress create a foreign mission, appoint the minister, & negociate a War Treaty, without the possibility of a check even from the Senate, untill the measures present alternatives overruling the freedom of its judgment; if again a Treaty when made obliges the Legislature to declare war contrary to its judgment, and in pursuance of the same doctrine, a law declaring war, imposes a like moral obligation, to grant the requisite supplies until it be formally repealed with the consent of the President & Senate, it is evident that the people are cheated out of the best ingredients in their Government, the safeguards of peace which is the greatest of their blessings.

James Madison, letter to Thomas Jefferson, April 2, 1798.—The Writings of James Madison, ed. Gaillard Hunt, vol. 6, pp. 312-13 (1906).

War

The eagle has ceased to scream, but the parrots will now begin to chatter. The war of the giants is over and the pigmies will now start to squabble.

Winston Churchill, comment on May 7, 1945, after General Ismay, his wartime chief of staff, announced the news of V-E Day.—Kay Halle, Irrepressible Churchill, p. 249 (1966).

War

The enemy advances, we retreat; the enemy camps, we harass; the enemy tires, we attack; the enemy retreats, we pursue.

Mao Tse-Tung, letter, January 5, 1930.—Selected Military Writings of Mao TseTung, p. 72 (1966).

Mao was quoting from a letter from the Front Committee to the Central Committee, on guerrilla tactics.

War

The god of war hates him who hesitates.

Euripides (485-406 B.C.)

Quoted by E.A. Mowrer

War

The law is silent during war. (Or, laws are dumb amidst the clash of arms.) Silent enim leges inter arma.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

Pro Milone.

War

The man who runs may fight again.

Menander

Monostikoi [Single Lines]

War

The objects of war:

1. To conquer and to destroy the armed power of the enemy.

2. To take possession of his material and other sources of his strength.

3. To win public opinion.

To accomplish the first purpose we should always direct our principal operation against an important portion of his forces. For only after defeating these can we pursue the other two objects successfully. In order to seize the enemy's material resources, we should direct our operations against the places where most of these resources are concentrated. On the way to these objectives we shall encounter the enemy's main forces or at least a considerable part of it.

Karl von Clausewitz

Op. cit.

War

The outcome of the war is in our hands; the outcome of words is in the council.

Homer

The Iliad, XVI 630

War

The struggles waged by the different peoples against U.S. imperialism reinforce each other and merge into a torrential worldwide tide of opposition to U.S. imperialism.

It can be split up and defeated. The peoples of Asia, Africa, Latin America, and other regions can destroy it piece by piece, some striking at its head and others at its feet. That is why the greatest fear of U.S. imperialism is that people's wars will be launched in different parts of the world…and why it regards people's war as a mortal danger.

Lin Piao, minister of defense, People's Republic of China. Text released September 2, 1965.—Samuel B. Griffith, Peking and People's Wars, p. 102 (1966).

War

The subordination of the political point of view to the military would be unreasonable, for policy has created war; policy is the intelligent faculty, war only the instrument, and not the reverse. The subordination of the military point of view to the political is, therefore, the only thing which is possible.

Karl von Clausewitz

On War, Book 6, Ch. 26, Arming the Nation.

War

The surest way to prevent war is not fear it.

John Randolph

War

The War That Will End War.

H. G. Wells, book title, 1914.

While the phrase "The war to end war" is often associated with Woodrow Wilson, its authorship was claimed by Wells in an article in Liberty, December 29, 1934, p. 4. Bertrand Russell also credited Wells in Portraits from Memory, p. 83 (1956). A cynical version attributed to David Lloyd George is: "This war, like the next war, is a war to end war." See William Safire, Safire's Political Dictionary, p. 777 (1978), for contemporary uses of the phrase.

War

The [armed] services in war time are fit only for desperadoes, but in peace are fit only for fools.

Benjamin Disraeli (Earl of Beaconsfield) (1804-1881)

Vivian Grey (1826)

War

There is a time for all things, a time to preach and a time to pray, but those times have passed away. There is a time to fight, and that time has now come.

Peter Muhlenberg.—The precise text of this Lutheran clergyman's sermon in Woodstock, Virginia, in January 1776, does not exist. The quotation above is from Edward W. Hocker, The Fighting Parson of the American Revolution, p. 61 (1936).

Muhlenberg served in Congress 1789-1791, 1793-1795, and 1799-1801.

War

There is no longer any room for hope. If we wish to be free—if we mean to preserve inviolate those inestimable privileges for which we have been so long contending—if we mean not basely to abandon the noble struggle in which we have been so long engaged, and which we have pledged ourselves never to abandon, until the glorious object of our contest shall be obtained—we must fight!—I repeat it, sir, we must fight!! An appeal to arms and to the God of Hosts, is all that is left us!

Patrick Henry, speech to the Virginia Convention, Richmond, Virginia, March 23, 1775.—William Wirt, Sketches of the Life and Character of Patrick Henry, 9th ed., p. 140 (1836, reprinted 1970).

For information on the authenticity of the text of this speech, see the notes at No. 1061.

War

There is only one decisive victory: the last.

Karl von Clausewitz (1780-1831)

Arming the Nations

War

There never was a good war or a bad peace.

Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790)

Letters, To Josiah Quincy, September 11, 1783

War

They said we were soft, that we would not fight, that we could not win. We are not a warlike nation. We do not go to war for gain or for territory; we go to war for principles, and we produce young men like these. I think I told every one of them that I would rather have that medal, the Congressional Medal of Honor, than to be President of the United States.

President Harry S. Truman, remarks at presentation of the Congressional Medal of Honor to fourteen members of the Navy and Marine Corps, October 5, 1945.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Harry S. Truman, 1945, p. 375.

War

This was the greatest event in the war, or, in my opinion, in Greek history; at once most glorious to the victors and most calamitous to the conquered. They were beaten at all points and altogether; their sufferings in every way were great. They were totally destroyed—their fleet, their army, everything—and few out of many returned home. So ended the Sicilian expedition.

Thucydides

The History of the Peloponnesian War, VIII, 87

War

Those who know how to win are much more numerous than those who know how to make proper use of their victories.

Polybius

History, X, 36

War

Thus, if there is anyone who is confident that he can advise me as to the best advantage of the state in this campaign which I am about to conduct, let him not refuse his services to the state, but come with me into Macedonia. I will furnish him with his seapassage, with a horse, a tent, and even travel-funds. If anyone is reluctant to do this and prefers the leisure of the city to the hardships of campaigning, let him not steer the ship from on shore.

Livy, book 44, chapter 22.—Livy, trans. Alfred C. Schlesinger, vol. 13, p. 161 (1951). Lucius Aemilius Paulus is addressing the people at a public meeting.President Franklin Roosevelt attacked armchair generals by citing this and preceding passages at his press conference, March 17, 1942: "Being of an historical turn of mind, [I figured] that probably some poor devil had gone through this process of annoyance in past years, some previous time in history, so I went quite far back and I found [Lucius Aemilius]…it sounds as if it were written in 1942."—The Public Papers and Addresses of Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1942, p. 166 (1950).

War

To jaw-jaw is always better than to war-war.

Winston Churchill, remarks at a White House luncheon, June 26, 1954. His exact words are not known, because the meetings and the luncheon that day were closed to reporters, but above is the commonly cited version.His words are quoted as "It is 'better to jaw-jaw than to war-war,'"in the subheading on p. 1 of The New York Times, June 27, 1954, and as "To jaw-jaw always is better than to war-war" on p. 3.

The Washington Post in its June 27 issue, p. 1, has "better to talk jaw to jaw than have war," and The Star Washington, D.C., p. 1, a slight variation, "It is better to talk jaw to jaw than to have war."

War

Vae victis!

Woe to the conquered!

Anonymous Latin

Quoted by Livy, 5, 48, as said by

Brennus to the Romans

War

Victory consists not merely in the conquest of the battlefield, but in the destruction of physical and moral forces and, this is usually attained only in the pursuit after the battle is won…. Every attack weakens as it advances.

Karl von Clausewitz

On War, prefatory note.

War

War begun without good provision of money beforehand for going through with it is but as a breathing of strength and blast that will quickly pass away. Coin is the sinews of war.

Francois Rabelais

Garguntua and Pantagruel, I,

Rabelais to the Reader, ch. 46

War

War challenges virtually every other institution of society—the justice and equity of its economy, the adequacy of its political systems, the energy of its productive plant, the bases, wisdom and purposes of its foreign policy.

Walter Millis, The Faith of an American, p. 27 (1941).

War

War contains so much folly, as well as wickedness, that much is to be hoped from the progress of reason; and if any thing is to be hoped, every thing ought to be tried.

James Madison, "Universal Peace," National Gazette, February 2, 1792.—The Writings of James Madison, ed. Gaillard Hunt, vol. 6, pp. 88-89 (1906).These words are inscribed in the Madison Memorial Hall, Library of Congress James Madison Memorial Building.

War

War involves in its progress such a train of unforeseen and unsupposed circumstances that no human wisdom can calculate the end. It has but one thing certain, and that is to increase taxes.

Thomas Paine

War

War is an ugly thing, but not the ugliest of things: the decayed and degraded state of moral and patriotic feeling which thinks nothing worth a war, is worse. When a people are used as mere human instruments for firing cannon or thrusting bayonets, in the service and for the selfish purposes of a master, such war degrades a people. A war to protect other human beings against tyrannical injustice; a war to give victory to their own ideas of right and good, and which is their own war, carried on for an honest purpose by their free choice,—is often the means of their regeneration. A man who has nothing which he is willing to fight for, nothing which he cares more about than he does about his personal safety, is a miserable creature who has no chance of being free, unless made and kept so by the exertions of better men than himself. As long as justice and injustice have not terminated their ever-renewing fight for ascendancy in the affairs of mankind, human beings must be willing, when need is, to do battle for the one against the other.

John Stuart Mill, "The Contest in America," Dissertations and Discussions, vol. 1, p. 26 (1868). First published in Fraser's Magazine, February 1862.

War

War is cruel and you cannot refine it.

William T. Sherman

War

War is itself a political act with primarily political objects and under the American form of government political officials must necessarily direct its general course.

Captain Dudley W. Knox, A History of the United States Navy, chapter 24, final paragraph, p. 274 (1936).

War

War is much too serious a matter to be entrusted to the military.

Attributed to various Frenchmen

including Talleyrand, Clemenceau, and Briand.

Unverified. Often heard,"…entrusted to generals."

War

War is not merely a political act but a real political instrument, a continuation of political intercourse, a carrying out of the same by other means.

Karl Von Clausewitz, On War trans. O. J. Matthijs Jolles, book 1, chapter 1, section 24, p. 16 (1943). Originally published in 1833.

War

War is only caused through the political intercourse of governments and nations….War is nothing but a continuation of political intercourse with an admixture of other means.

Karl von Clausewitz

On War, Book 6, Ch. 26, Arming the Nation.

War

War is the province of chance. In no other sphere of human activity has such a margin to be left to this intruder, because none is in such constant contact with it on every side. It increases the uncertainty of every circumstance and deranges the course of events.

Karl von Clausewitz

On War, Ch. 3, The Genius for War.

War

War never leaves where it found a nation.

Edmund Burke

Letters on a Regicide peace.

War

War never slays a bad man in course, But the good always.

Sophocles

War

War seldom enters but where wealth allures.

John Dryden

War

War spares not the brave, but the cowardly.

Anagreon

War

War spares not the brave, but the cowardly.

Anagreon

Fragment 101. From The Palatine Anthology VII, 160

War

War will never yield but to the principles of universal justice and love.

William Ellery Channing

War

Wars and alarums unto nations wide.

Edmund Spenser

The Faerie Queene, VII, 6, 3

War

We are mad, not only individually, but nationally. We check manslaughter and isolated murders; but what of war and the much vaunted crime of slaughtering whole peoples?

Lucius Annaeus Seneca

Epistles, 95, 30

War

We have to go along a road covered with blood. We have no other alternative. For us it is a matter of life or death, a matter of living or existing. We have to be ready to face the challenges that await us.

Gamal Abdel Nasser, speech to Egypt's National Assembly, Cairo, November 6, 1969, as reported by The Washington Post, November 7, 1969, p. 1.

War

We make war that we can live in peace.

Aristotle

War

We must further expressly and exactly establish the point of view, no less necessary in practice, from which war is regarded as nothing but the continuation of state policy with other means.

Karl von Clausewitz

On War, prefatory note.

War

We see, therefore, that war is not merely a political act, but a real political instrument, a continuation of political intercourse, a carrying out of the same by other means.

Karl von Clausewitz

On War, Ch. 1, What is War?

War

When armies are mobilized and issues joined, the man who is sorry over the fact will win.

Lao Tzu

The Way of Lao Tzu 69

War

When you have prayed for victory you have prayed for many unmentioned results which follow victory—must follow it, cannot help but follow it. Upon the listening spirit of God the Father fell also the unspoken part of the prayer. He commandeth me to put it into words. Listen!

"O Lord our Father, our young patriots, idols of our hearts, go forth to battle—be Thou near them! With them—in spirit—we also go forth from the sweet peace of our beloved firesides to smite the foe. O Lord our God, help us to tear their soldiers to bloody shreds with our shells; help us to cover their smiling fields with the pale forms of their patriot dead; help us to drown the thunder of the guns with the shrieks of their wounded, writhing in pain; help us to lay waste their humble homes with a hurricane of fire; help us to wring the hearts of their unoffending widows with anavailing grief; help us to turn them out roofless with their little children to wander unfriended the wastes of their desolated land in rags and hunger and thirst, sports of the sun flames of summer and the icy winds of winter, broken in spirit, worn with travail, imploring Thee for the refuge of the grave and denied it—for our sakes who adore Thee, Lord, blast their hopes, blight their lives, protract their bitter pilgrimage, make heavy their steps, water their way with their tears, stain the white snow with the blood of their wounded feet! We ask it, in the spirit of love, of Him who is the Source of Love, and who is the ever-faithful refuge and friend of all that are sore beset and seek His aid with humble and contrite hearts. Amen."

Mark Twain (Samuel L. Clemens), "The War Prayer" Europe and Elsewhere, pp. 397-98 (1923). Dictated 1904-1905.

War

You can do anything with bayonets except sit on them.

Camillo di Cavour

War

You have not been mistaken in supposing my views and feeling to be in favor of the abolition of war. Of my disposition to maintain peace until its condition shall be made less tolerable than that of war itself, the world has had proofs, and more, perhaps, than it has approved. I hope it is practicable, by improving the mind and morals of society, to lessen the disposition to war; but of its abolition I despair.

Thomas Jefferson, letter to Noah Worcester, November 26, 1817.—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, ed. Andrew A. Lipscomb, vol. 18, p. 298 (1903).

War/Peace

WAR IS PEACE

FREEDOM IS SLAVERY

IGNORANCE IS STRENGTH.

George Orwell, Nineteen Eighty-Four, p. 5 (1949).These three slogans of the Party were engraved on the Ministry of Truth building.

War/Peace

An analysis of the history of mankind shows that from the year 1496 B.C. to the year 1861 of our era, that is, in a cycle of 3357 years, were but 227 years of peace and 3130 years of war: in other words, were thirteen years of war for every year of peace. Considered thus, the history of the lives of peoples presents a picture of uninterrupted struggle. War, it would appear, is a normal attribute to human life.

Jean de Bloch, The Future of War trans. R. C. Long, p. Ixv (1903).

War/Peace

And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

The Bible, Isaiah 2:4.

War/Peace

Better pointed bullets than pointed speeches.

Prince Otto von Bismarck

War/Peace

Croesus said to Cambyses; That peace was better than war; because in peace the sons did bury their fathers, but in wars the fathers did bury their sons.

Francis Bacon, Apophthegms, New and Old (vol. 13 of The Works of Francis Bacon), ed. James A. Spedding, Robert L. Ellis and Douglas D. Heath, no. 149, p. 359 (1860, reprinted 1969). First published 1625.

War/Peace

I will not bathe my hands in the blood of the people of Mexico, nor will I participate in the guilt of those murders which have been and will hereafter be committed by our army there.

Joshua R. Giddings

War/Peace

In War: Resolution

In Defeat: Defiance

In Victory: Magnanimity

In Peace: Good Will

Winston Churchill, The Second World War p. viii (1948-1954). This motto, the "moral of the work," appeared on p. viii of each of the Six volumes in this work.

War/Peace

No protacted war can fail to endanger the freedom of a democratic country.

Alexis de Tocqueville

War/Peace

Of all armies those which long for war most ardently are the democratic ones, but of all peoples those most deeply attached to peace are the democratic nations.

Alexis de Tocqueville

War/Peace

Peace is an armistice in a war that is continuously going on.

Thucydides

War/Peace

Peace will never be won if men reserve for war their greatest efforts, Peace, too, requires well-directed and sustained sacrificial endeavor. Given that, we can, I believe, achieve the great goal of our foreign policy, that of enabling our people to enjoy in peace the blessings of liberty.

John Foster Dulles, secretary of state, news conference statement, December 31, 1954.—Department of State Bulletin, January 10, 1955, p. 44.

War/Peace

Pile the bodies high at Austerlitz and Waterloo.

Shovel them under and let me work—

I am the grass; I cover all.

And pile them high at Gettysburg

And pile them high at Ypres and Verdun.

Shovel them under and let me work.

Two years, ten years, and passengers ask the conductor:

What place is this?

Where are we now?

I am the grass.

Let me work.

Carl Sandburg, "Grass," The Complete Poems of Carl Sandburg, rev. and expanded ed., p. 136 (1970). First published in 1918 in Cornhuskers.

War/Peace

Since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed.

Author unknown. Preamble to the constitution of UNESCO, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.—U.S. National Commission for UNESCO, UNESCO: Basic Documents, 7th ed., p. 9 (1965).The UNESCO office in Washington, D.C., has identified the author of this sentence both as Clement Richard Attlee, prime minister of Great Britain, and more recently as Archibald MacLeish, chairman of the American delegation to the London conference to draw up the UNESCO constitution, which was adopted in London on November 16, 1945.

War/Peace

So far war has been the only force that can discipline a whole community, and until an equivalent discipline is organized, I believe that war must have its way.

William James

War/Peace

Such subtle Covenants shall be made,

Till Peace it self is War in Masquerade.

John Dryden,

Absalom and Achitophel, part 2,

lines 268-69, p. 9 (1682, reprinted 1970).

A variant of the second part,

"And Peace it self is War in Masquerade,"

appears earlier in the poem,

part 1, line 752, p. 23.

War/Peace

The next dreadful thing to a battle lost is a battle won.

Arthur Wellesley, Duke of Wellington

War/Peace

There are no compacts between lions and men, and wolves and lambs have no concord.

Homer

The Iliad, Xxii, 262

War/Peace

There never was a time when, in my opinion, some way could not be found to prevent the drawing of the sword.

Ulysses S. Grant

War/Peace

War is an invention of the human mind. The human mind can invent peace with justice.

Norman Cousins, Who Speaks for Man?, p. 318 (1953).

War/Peace

Wars are, of course, as a rule to be avoided; but they are far better than certain kinds of peace.

Theodore Roosevelt, Thomas Hart Benton, chapter 12, p. 289 (1897, reprinted 1968).

War/Peace

You bring me the deepest joy that can be felt by a man whose invincible belief is that Science and Peace will triumph over Ignorance and War, that nations will unite, not to destroy, but to build, and that the future will belong to those who will have done most for suffering humanity.

Louis Pasteur, speech at celebration honoring his seventieth birthday, the Sorbonne, Paris, France, December 27, 1892. Pasteur's son read the speech of thanks because of the weakness of his father's voice.—Rene Vallery-Radot, The Life of Pasteur, trans. Mrs. R. L. Devonshire, vol. 2, p. 297 (1902).On his 1956 Christmas card, Adlai E. Stevenson used a version of this passage which varies slightly from the arrangement and translation given above: "Not to destroy but to construct, II hold the unconquerable belief/that science and peace will triumph over ignorance and war / that nations will come together / not to destroy but to construct / and that the future belongs to those / who accomplish most for humanity."

War In Asia

I am under no illusion that our present strategy of using means short of total war to achieve our ends and oppose communism is a guarantee that a world war will not be thrust upon us. But a policy of patience and determination without provoking a world war, while we improve our military power, is one which we believe we must continue to follow. .

Under present circumstances, we have recommended against enlarging the war from Korea to also include Red China. The course of action often described as a "limited war" with Red China would increase the risk we are taking by engaging too much of our power in an area that is not the critical strategic prize.

Red China is not the powerful nation seeking to dominate the world. Frankly, in the opinion of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, this strategy would involve us in the wrong war, at the wrong place, at the wrong time, and with the wrong enemy.

General Omar N. Bradley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, testimony before the Senate Committees on Armed Services and Foreign Relations, May 15, 1951.—Military Situation in the Far East, hearings, 82d Congress, 1st session, part 2, p. 732 (1951). On p. 753, Bradley repeats his conviction that it is "a wrong war at the wrong place and against a wrong enemy.

War In Asia

While no man in his right mind would advocate sending our ground forces into continental China and such was never given a thought, the new situation [Korea] did urgently demand a drastic revision of strategic planning if our political aim was to defeat this new enemy as we had defeated the old.

General Douglas Macarthur, address to a joint session of Congress, April 19, 1951.—Congressional Record, vol. 97, p. 4124.

War/Peace

To be prepared for war is the most effectual means of preserving peace.

George Washington

Washington, D.C.

If I wanted to go crazy I would do it in Washington because it would not be noticed.

Attributed to Irwin S. Cobb. Unverified.

Washington, D.C.

Now, I am opposed to the franchise in the District [of Columbia]; I am opposed, and not because I yield to any one in my support and belief in the principles of self-government; but principles are applicable generally, and then, unless you make exceptions to the application of these principles, you will find that they will carry you to very illogical and absurd results. This was taken out of the application of the principle of self-government in the very Constitution that was intended to put that in force in every other part of the country, and it was done because it was intended to have the representatives of all the people in the country control this one city, and to prevent its being controlled by the parochial spirit that would necessarily govern men who did not look beyond the city to the grandeur of the nation, and this as the representative of that nation.

President William Howard Taft, address at a banquet given in his honor by the Board of Trade and Chamber of Commerce of Washington, D.C., May 8, 1909.—Presidential Addresses and State Papers of William Howard Taft, vol. 1, chapter 7, p. 83 (1910).

Washington, D.C.

So I came to Washington, where I knew I would be farther away from America than I could be on some foreign shore; not that I do not respect this as a good part of America but in its general routine the heart of America is felt less here than at any place I have ever been.

Senator Huey Long, remarks in the Senate, May 17, 1932, Congressional Record, vol. 75, p. 10393.

Washington, D.C.

Somebody once said that Washington was a city of Northern charm and Southern efficiency.

President John F. Kennedy, remarks to the trustees and advisory committee of the national cultural center, November 14, 1961.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: John F Kennedy, 1961, p. 719.

Washington, D.C.

Too small to be a state but too large to be an asylum for the mentally deranged.

Anne M. Burford, characterizing the District of Columbia, remarks to a Colorado state convention of wool growers, Vail, Colorado, July 27, 1984, as reported by The Washington Post, July 29, 1984, p. I.Burford was a former administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency. Her remark is reminiscent of one reportedly made by James L. Petigru during Christmas week, 1860, in Charleston, South Carolina, when he was asked by Robert Barnwell Rhett, a leader of the secessionists, if he were with them: "South Carolina is too small for a republic and too large for an insane asylum."—Earl Schenck Miers, The Great Rebellion, p. 50 (1958).

Washington, D.C.

Washington is full of famous men and the women they married when they were young.

Fanny Dixwell Holmes, remark to President Theodore Roosevelt at the reception preceding a dinner at the White House in honor of her husband, Supreme Court Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, January 8, 1903.—Catherine Drinker Bowen, Yankee from Olympus, p. 362 (1944).

Washington, D.C.

[George] Washington intended this to be a Federal city, and it is a Federal city, and it tingles down to the feet of every man, whether he comes from Washington State, or Los Angeles, or Texas, when he comes and walks these city streets and begins to feel that "this is my city; I own a part of this Capital, and I envy for the time being those who are able to spend their time here." I quite admit that there are defects in the system of government by which Congress is bound to look after the government of the District of Columbia. It could not be otherwise under such a system, but I submit to the judgment of history that the result vindicates the foresight of the fathers.

President William Howard Taft, address at a banquet given in his honor by the Board of Trade and Chamber of Commerce of Washington, D.C., May 8, 1909.—Presidential Addresses and State Papers of William Howard Taft, vol. 1, chapter 7, pp. 82-83 (1910).

George Washington

And as to you, Sir, treacherous in private friendship (for so you have been to me, and that in the day of danger) and a hypocrite in public life, the world will be puzzled to decide whether you are an apostate or an impostor; whether you have abandoned good principles, or whether you ever had any.

Thomas Paine, letter to George Washington, July 30, 1796.—The Writings of Thomas Paine, ed. Moncure D. Conway, vol. 3, p. 252 (1895).

George Washington

Gentlemen, the character of Washington is among the most cherished contemplations of my life. It is a fixed star in the firmament of great names, shining without twinkling or obscuration, with clear, steady, beneficent light.

Daniel Webster, secretary of state, letter to the New York Committee for the Celebration of the Birthday of Washington, February 20, 1851.—The Writings and Speeches of Daniel Webster; vol. 12, p. 261 (1903).Webster served in Congress as a representative from New Hampshire, 1813-1817, and from Massachusetts, 1823-1827, and as a senator from Massachusetts, 1827-1841 and 1845-1850.

Water

Mr. Toastmaster, Gentlemen: I feel highly honored indeed to be one of the chosen to say a few words this evening. I am requested to respond to the toast: "Water, the purest and most wonderful thing that was ever created." You, as well as I, have seen it glistening in small globular teardrops on the eyelids of troubled sweethearts and peevish infants, as well as go rushing in torrents down the wrinkled cheeks of the aged ones. And in the early morning I have seen it glistening and sparkling like so many diamonds on the grass blades and the flowers. I have seen it rushing like some wild thing down the rapids of the river, only to flow quietly and lazily where the river widens. I have heard it roar and rumble as it dashed down some steep precipice. And what I have seen—I have seen—Gentlemen, what I want to say is, that as a beverage, it's a failure.

Author unknown.—Arthur Leroy Kaser, Good Toasts and Funny Stories, p. 98 (1923). This quotation was submitted to the Queries column of The New York Times Book Review in 1971. One response to the query attributed this toast to a Colonel Bob Maxe at an annual dinner of the Bar Association of North Arkansas. The wording varied, and the attribution has not been verified in a published source.A more succinct version found its way into Congressional Research Service files: "Gentlemen—I have seen water in all of its majesty, pouring in torrents over great falls, rushing madly through deep gorges, and tossing wildly as waves of the oceans. I have seen it in the frozen stillness of a winter pond, in the flower-like crystals of snow flakes. I have seen it as the soft morning dew, and as the gentle teardrop in the eye of a beautiful lady—But gentlemen, as a beverage, it is a d—– failure!"

Water

Ocean, who is the source of all.

Homer

The Iliad, XIV, 246

Water

The best [man] is like water.

Water is good; it benefits all things

and does not compete with them.

It dwells in [lowly] places that all disdain.

This is why it is so near to Tao.

Lao Tzu

The Way of Lao Tzu 8

Water

Water is best. But gold shines like fire blazing in the night, supreme of lordly wealth.

Pindar

Olympian Odes I, 1

Watergate Affair

Maybe this [Watergate] is like the Old Testament. It was visited upon us and maybe were going to benefit from it.

Nelson A. Rockefeller, governor of New York, speech to the State Broadcasters Association, Cooperstown, New York, July 17, 1973, as reported by The New York Times, July 18, 1973, p. 20.

Watergate Affair

There are these and other great causes that we were elected overwhelmingly to carry forward in November of 1972. And what we were elected to do, we are going to do, and let others wallow in Watergate, we are going to do our job.

President Richard M. Nixon, remarks to members of the White House staff on returning from Bethesda Naval Hospital, July 20, 1973.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Richard Nixon, 1973, p. 657.

Watergate Affair

We must maintain the integrity of the White House, and that integrity must be real, not transparent. There can be no whitewash at the White House.

President Richard M. Nixon, address to the nation about the Watergate investigations, April 30, 1973.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Richard Nixon, 1973, p. 332.

Weakness

If thou wouldst conquer thy weakness, thou must never gratify it—no man is compelled to evil; only his consent makes it his. It is no sin to be tempted; it is to yield and be overcome.

William Penn

Wealth

[When asked what was the proper time for supper] If you are a rich man, whenever you please; and if you are a poor man, whenever you can.

Diogenes The Cynic

From Diogenes Laertius, Diogenes 6

Wealth

The gods sent not

Corn for the rich men only.

William Shakespeare

Coriolanus, I, i, 213

Wealth

A river is more than an amenity, it is a treasure.

Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, New Jersey v. New York, et al., 283 U.S. 342 (1931).

Wealth

Better honor than shameful wealth.

Eustache Deschamps

Ballad refrain

Wealth

But if one should guide his life by true principles, man's greatest wealth is to live on a little with contented mind; for a little is never lacking.

Lucretius [Titus Lucretius Carus]

De Rerum Natura, V, 1117

Wealth

For what person is there, in the name of gods and men who would wish to be surrounded by unlimited wealth and to abound in every material blessing, on condition that he love no one and that no one love him? Such indeed is the life of tyrants—a life, I mean, in which there can be no faith, no affection, no trust in the continuance of goodwill; where every act arouses suspicion and anxiety and where friendship has no place.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

On Friendship. Copyright, Loeb Classical Library.

Wealth

Great wealth always supports the party in power, no matter how corrupt it may be. It never exerts itself for reform for it instinctively fears change.

Henry George (1839-1897)

Social Problems (1884)

Wealth

He is bound fast by his wealth…his money owns him rather than he own it.

St. Cyprian (200-beheaded 258), Bishop of Carthage

The World and Its Vanities

Wealth

He is not poor who has enough of things to use. If it is well with your belly, chest and feet, the wealth of kings can give you nothing more.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Epistles, I, xii, 4

Wealth

If a rich man is proud of his wealth, he should not be praised until it is known how he employs it.

Socrates

Wealth

It ain't so much trouble to get rich as it is to tell when we have got rich.

Josh Billings

Wealth

It is better to have old secondhand diamonds than none at all.

Mark Twain

Wealth

It is the peculiarity of privilege and of every privileged position to kill the intellect and heart of man. The privileged man, whether he be privileged politically or economically, is a man depraved in intellect and heart.

Mikhail A. Bakunin

Quoted, Encyclopaedia Britannica.

Wealth

It is to be regretted that the rich and powerful too often bend the acts of government to their selfish purposes.

Andrew Jackson

Wealth

Live poor so you can die rich.

Author Unknown

Wealth

Nothing is more fallacious than wealth. It is a hostile comrade, a domestic enemy.

St. John Chrysostom

Homilies, II.

Wealth

Our cities are the abiding places of wealth and luxury; our manufactories yield fortunes never dreamed of by the fathers of the Republic, our business men are madly striving in the race for riches, and immense aggregations of capital outrun the imagination in the magnitude of their undertakings…

Upon more careful inspection, we find the wealth and luxury of our cities mingled with poverty and wretchedness and unremunerative toil.

Grover Cleveland

Annual Message to Congress, 1888.

Wealth

So long as all the increased wealth which modern progress brings goes but to build up great fortunes, to increase luxury and make sharper the contrast between the House of Have and the House of Want, progress is not real and cannot be permanent.

Henry George (1839-1897)

Progress and Poverty (1879), Introductory: The Problem

Wealth

Some have too much, yet still do crave;

I little have and seek no more.

They are but poor, though much they have,

And I am rich with little store:

They poor, I rich; they beg, I give;

They lack, I leave; they pine, I live.

My wealth is health and perfect ease;

My conscience clear my chief defence;

I never seek by bribes to please,

Nor by deceit to breed offence:

Thus do I life; thus will I die;

Would all did so well as I.

Sir Edward Dyer (c. 1540-1607)

"My Mind to Me a Kingdom Is" (1586)

Wealth

Surplus wealth is a sacred trust which its possessor is bound to administer in his lifetime for the good of the community.

Andrew Carnegie

Wealth

The loss of wealth is loss of dirt,

As sages in all times assert;

The happy man's without a shirt.

John Heywood

Be Merry Friends

Wealth

The only thing wealth does for some people is to make them worry about losing it.

Comte de Rivarol

Wealth

The ways to enrich are many, and most of them foul.

Francis Bacon

Essays. On Riches.

Wealth

There are three ways by which an individual can get wealthy—by work, by gift, and by theft. And, clearly, the reason why the workers get so little is that the beggars and thieves get so much.

Henry George (1839-1897)

Social Problems (1884)

Wealth

This, then, is the remedy for the unjust and unequal distribution of wealth apparent in modern civilization, and for all the evils which flow from it:

We must make land common property.

Henry George (1839-1897)

Progress and Poverty (1879), Bk. VI, ch. II

Wealth

Those who own the country ought to govern it.

John Jay

Wealth

We are now suffering the evils of a long peace. Luxury, more deadly than war, broods over the city, and avenges a conquered world.

Decimus Junius Juvenal

Satires, VI, 292

Wealth

Wealth is a power usurped by the few to compel the many to labor for their benefit.

Percy Bysshe Shelley

Wealth

Wealth may be an excellent thing, for it means power, it means leisure, it means liberty.

James Russell Lowell

Wealth

Your Highnesses have an Other World here, by which our holy faith can be so greatly advanced and from which such great wealth can be drawn.

Christopher Columbus

Letter to the Sovereigns on the Third Voyage, October 18, 1498

Weather

'Tis very warm weather when one's in bed.

Jonathan Swift

Weather

Everybody talks about the weather but nobody does anything about it.

Mark Twain

Weather

Everybody talks about the weather, but nobody does anything about it.

Generally, but perhaps mistakenly, attributed to Mark Twain. It has never been verified in his writings.

Many quotation dictionaries credit Charles Dudley Warner, a friend of Twain's, with this remark. But what Warner actually wrote, in an editorial in the Hartford (Connecticut) Courant, August 27, 1897, p. 8, was: "A well known American writer said once that, while everybody talked about the weather, nobody seemed to do anything about it."

Later, Robert U. Johnson, in his autobiography, Remembered Yesterdays, p. 322 (1923), says, "Nor have I ever seen in print Mark's Saying about the weather, 'We all grumble about the weather, but—but—but nothing is done about it.'"

The true author remains a debatable subject, and the quotation remains a popular one.

Weather

I was born with chronic anxiety about the weather.

John Burroughs

Weather

Now spring brings back balmy warmth.

Gaius Valerius Catullus

Carmina, XLVI, 1

Weather

Olympus, where they say there is an abode of the gods, ever unchanging: it is neither shaken by winds nor ever wet with rain, nor does snow come near it, but clear weather spreads cloudless about it, and a white radiance stretches above it.

Homer

The Odyssey, VI, 42

Weather

Sunshine is delicious, rain is refreshing, wind braces up, snow is exhilarating. There is no such thing as bad weather, only different kinds of good weather.

John Ruskin

Weather

The Admiral [Colombus] says here that today and ever thereafter they had very mild breezes, that the savor of the mornings was a great delight, that the only thing wanting was to hear nightingales. Says he, "The weather was like April in Andalusia."

Christopher Columbus

Journal Of The First Voyage, September 16, 1492

Welfare

Doing for people what they can and ought to do for themselves is a dangerous experiment. In the last analysis the welfare of the workers depends upon their own initiative. Whatever is done under the guise of philanthropy or social morality which in any way lessens initiative is the greatest crime that can be committed against the toilers. Let social busy-bodies and professional "public morals experts" in their fads reflect upon the perils they rashly invite under this pretense of social welfare.

Samuel Gompers, "The Shorter Workday—Its Philosophy," Eight Hours, pp. 36-37 (191?).

Welfare

Though the people support the government, the government must not support the people.

Grover Cleveland

Welfare

We have here a human as well as an economic problem. When humane considerations are concerned, Americans give them precedence. The lessons of history, confirmed by the evidence immediately before me, show conclusively that continued dependence upon relief induces a spiritual and moral disintegration fundamentally destructive to the national fibre. To dole out relief in this way is to administer a narcotic, a subtle destroyer of the human spirit.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt, annual message to the Congress, January 4, 1935.—The Public Papers and Addresses of Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1935, p. 19 (1938).

Westward Movement

Our well-founded claim, grounded on continuity, has greatly strengthened, during the same period, by the rapid advance of our population toward the territory—its great increase, especially in the valley of the Mississippi—as well as the greatly increased facility of passing to the territory by more accessible routes, and the far stronger and rapidly-swelling tide of population that has recently commenced flowing into it.

John C. Calhoun, secretary of state, letter to Richard Pakenham, British minister to the United States, September 3, 1844, concerning the boundary dispute between the two countries.—Congressional Globe, December 2, 1845, vol. 15, Appendix, p. 26.When the dispute was settled in 1846, the United States was given all the land south of the forty-ninth parallel except Vancouver Island. The area included the modern states of Oregon, Idaho, and Washington, as well as parts of Montana and Wyoming.

Calhoun served in Congress 1811-1817, 1832-1843, and 1845-1850. He was vice president 1825-1832.

Westward Movement

What do we want with this vast, worthless area? This region of savages and wild beasts, of deserts of shifting sands and whirlwinds of dust, of cactus and prairie dogs? To what use could we ever hope to put these great deserts, or those endless mountain ranges, impenetrable and covered to their very base with eternal snow? What can we ever hope to do with the western coast, a coast of three thousand miles, rock-bound, cheerless, uninviting, and not a harbor on it? What use have we for this country?

Attributed to Daniel Webster, supposedly from a speech in the Senate.—Benjamin Perley Poore, Perley's Reminiscences, vol. 1, chapter 15, pp. 213-14 (1886).

The same quotation, with slight word variation, appears in Edmund J. Carpenter, The American Advance, p. 216 (1903), with the additional sentence, "Mr. President, I will never vote one cent from the public treasury to place the Pacific coast one inch nearer to Boston than it is now."

These remarks have never been verified in the speeches or writings of Webster, and are probably spurious. T. C. Elliott, The Outlook, August 15, 1908, p. 869, said, "It is safe to say he never uttered it."

Webster served in Congress as a representative from New Hampshire 1813-1817, and from Massachusetts, 1823-1827, and as a senator from Massachusetts, 1827-1841 and 1845-1850.

Wickedness

There have been men indeed splendidly wicked, whose endowments threw a brightness on their crimes, and whom scarce any villainy made perfectly detestable, because they never could wholly divested of their excellencies; but such have been in all ages the great corrupters of the world, and their resemblance ought no more to be preserved, than the art of murdering without pain.

Johnson, Rambler No. 4

Wine

Claret is the liquor for boys; port for men; but he who aspires to be a hero must drink brandy.

Samuel Johnson

Wine

Diogenes was asked what wine he liked best; and he answered as I would have done when he said: "Somebody else's."

Michel de Montaigne

Wine

From wine what sudden friendship springs!

John Gay

Wine

Good wine is a good familiar creature if it be well used.

William Shakespeare

Othello, II, iii, 315

Wine

No poems can live long or please that are written by water-drinkers.

Horace

Wine

One of the disadvantages of wine is that it makes a man mistake words for thoughts.

Samuel Johnson

Wine

One should write not unskillfully in the running hand, be able to sing in a pleasing voice and keep good time to music; and, lastly, a man should not refuse a little wine when it is pressed upon him.

Yoshida Kenko

Tsurezure-Gusa (Essays in Idleness)

Wine

Outdid the meat, outdid the frolic wine.

Robert Herrick

Hesperides. Ode for Ben Jonson

Wine

She [Helen] threw into the wine which they were drinking a drug which takes away grief and passion and brings forgetfulness of all ills.

Homer

The Odyssey, IV, 220

Wine

The wine of Arpad Haraszthy has a bouquet all its own. It tickles and titillates the palate. It gurgles as it slips down the alimentary canal. It warms the cockles of the heart, and it burns the sensitive lining of the stomach.

Ambrose Bierce

Wine

The wine urges me on, the bewitching wine, which sets even a wise man to singing and to laughing gently and rouses him up to dance and brings forth words which were better unspoken.

Homer

The Odyssey, XIV, 463

Wine

Wine gives great pleasure, and every pleasure is of itself a good.

Samuel Johnson

Wine

Wine is a peep-hole on a man.

Alcaeus

Fragment 104

Wine

Wine that maketh glad the heart of man.

The Bible (Psalms 104:15)

Winning

All right Mister, let me tell you what winning means…you're willing to go longer, work harder, give more than anyone else.

Vince Lombardi

Winning

Champions are afraid to lose when most others are afraid to win.

Billie Jean King

Winning

I will not only give 'em battle, I will lick 'em!

Lieutenant Richard W. Dowling, purported remark to a Confederate council of war urging him not to fight.—May M. Pray, Dick Dowling's Battle, chapter 10, p. 108 (1936). Unverified.During the Battle of Sabine Pass, September 8, 1863, the Confederates at Fort Griffin did defeat the Union forces trying to occupy southeast Texas. In forty-five minutes, Dowling and his forty-six men captured 350 prisoners, cannon, and two gunboats, while crippling a third, without suffering any casualties.

Winning

The person who wins may have been counted out several times, but didn't hear the referee.

Author Unknown

Winning

Whether you like it or not, history is on our side. We will bury you.

Nikita S. Khrushchev, remark at a Polish embassy reception following the signing of a Moscow-Warsaw joint declaration in Moscow, November 18, 1956.—The Washington Post, November 19, 1956, p. 1. Khrushchev later explained what he had meant in response to a question at the National Press Club, Washington, D.C., September 16, 1959: "The expression I used was distorted, and on purpose, because what was meant was not the physical burial of any people but the question of the historical force of development. It is well known that at the present time no one social or economic system is dominant throughout the world, but that there are different systems, social systems in different countries. And those systems change. At one time the most widespread system of society in the world was feudalism. Then capitalism took its place…. We believe that Karl Marx, Engels and Lenin gave scientific proof of the fact that the system, the social system of socialism, would take the place of capitalism…that is why I said that looking at the matter from the historical point of view, socialism, communism, would take the place of capitalism and capitalism thereby would be, so to speak, buried."—Transcript of Khrushchev's address and subsequent question-and-answer session (simultaneous translation), The New York Times, September 17, 1959, p. 18, col. 8.

Winning

Whoever can surprize well must conquer.

John Paul Jones, letter to the American commissioners to France, February 10, 1778.—Papers of Benjamin Franklin, American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Reproduced courtesy of the APS Library.This appears as "Who can surprise well must conquer" in John Paul Jones, Fighter for Freedom and Glory by Lincoln Lorenz, p. xiii (1943).

Winning

Winning isn't everything, it's the only thing.

Red Sanders,

Vanderbilt University football coach, c. 1948.

—Leo Green, Sportswit, p. 57 (1984).

Verified by Scoop Hudgins, Vanderbilt's sports

information director 1946-1948, and Fred Russell,

retired sports editor of the Nashville, Tennessee, Banner

and a friend of Sanders's, who quoted this

phrase in his columns at the time.

This remark has been widely attributed to football coach

Vince Lombardi. In Vince Lombardi on Football, ed.

George L. Flynn, vol. 1, chapter 1, p. 16 (1973),

Lombardi is quoted, "I have been quoted as saying, 'Winning is the only thing.'

That's a little out of context. What I said is that

'Winning is not everything—but making the effort to win is.'"

Not everyone agrees. Time, September 14, 1970, p. 61,

attributed this remark to Lombardi and called it his creed.

Bob Rubin, Green Bay's Packers, p. 84 (1973), quotes this from

Lombardi's opening talk on the first day of training camp in 1959.

Counsel

Ask counsel of both times—of the ancient time what is best, and of the latter time what is fittest.

Francis Bacon,

"Of Great Place," The Essays, or Counsels

Civil & Moral of Francis Bacon, p. 48 (1905).

Based on the 1625 edition but with modernized spelling.

Wisdom

Drop, drop—in our sleep, upon the heart

sorrow falls, memory's pain,

and to us, though against our very will,

even in our own despite,

comes wisdom

by the awful grace of God.

Aeschylus, Agamemnon.

The above lines are from Edith Hamilton,

trans., Three Greek Plays, p. 170 (1937).

Other translations of this passage from Aeschylus vary.

Robert F. Kennedy, delivering an extemporaneous

eulogy to Martin Luther King, Jr., the evening of

April 4, 1968, in Indianapolis, Indiana, said,

"Aeschylus wrote: 'In our sleep, pain that cannot

forget falls drop by drop upon the heart and in

our own despair, against our will, comes

wisdom through the awful grace of God.'"

These words, lacking "own," have been used

as one of the inscriptions at the Robert F. Kennedy

gravesite in Arlington National Cemetery.

Winning/Losing

For when the One Great Scorer comes to mark against your name,

He writes—not that you won or lost—but how you played the Game.

Grantland Rice,

"Alumnus Football," last two lines,

Only the Brave and Other Poems, p. 144 (1941).

Winning/Losing

I would rather lose in a cause that will some day win, than win in a cause that will some day lose!

Attributed to Woodrow Wilson.

—Hugh A. Bone, American Politics and the Party System,

p. 482 (1949). Not verified in the writings of Wilson.

Winning/Losing

If we win, nobody will care. If we lose, there will be nobody to care.

Prime Minister Winston Churchill,

secret session, House of Commons, June 25, 1941.

—Winston S. Churchill: His Complete Speeches,

1897-1963, ed. Robert Rhodes James, vol. 6, p. 6438 (1974).

Constitution of the United States

Standing in this presence, mindful of the solemnity of this occasion, feeling the emotions which no one may know until he senses the great weight of responsibility for himself, I must utter my belief in the divine inspiration of the founding fathers.

President Warren G. Harding,

inaugural address, March 4, 1921.

—Inaugural Addresses of the Presidents of the

United States from George Washington, 1789, to

Richard Milhous Nixon, 1969, p. 207 (1969).

House Doc. 91-142.

Harding is credited with originating the phrase

founding fathers. Senator Harding's remarks before

the Sons and Daughters of the Revolution,

Washington, D.C., February 22, 1918, included this

sentence: "It is good to meet and drink at the fountains

of wisdom inherited from the founding fathers

of the Republic."—Address on Washington's Birthday,

p. 3 (1918). Senate Doc. 65-180. He also used the

phrase in his speech on being officially notified of his

nomination for the presidency, Marion, Ohio, July 22, 1920.

According to "Of Deathless Remarks…," American Heritage,

June 1970, p. 57, his 1918 remarks were "the first use of the

phrase that the combined efforts of the experts

at the Library of Congress have been able to find."

Speech

The poet's aim is either to profit or to please, or to blend in one the delightful and the useful. Whatever the lesson you would convey, be brief, that your hearers may catch quickly what is said and faithfully retain it. Every superfluous word is spilled from the too full memory.

Horace, Ars Poetica, lines 333-37.

—Edward Henry Blakeney,

Horace on the Art of Poetry,

p. 54 (1928, reprinted 1970).

Horace's message is often condensed to

"Whatever advice you give, be brief."

(Quidquid praecipies, esto brevis.)—line 335.

Wisdom

Wisdom too often never comes, and so one ought not to reject it merely because it comes late.

Justice Felix Frankfurter,

dissenting, Henslee v. Union Planters Bank,

335 U.S. 600 (1948).

Losing/Luck

You make your own luck, Gig.

You know what makes a good loser? Practice.

Ernest Hemingway,

speaking to his son.

—Gregory H. Hemingway,

Papa, a Personal Memoir p. 4 (1976).

Wisdom/Honor

[The argument of Alcidamas:] Everyone honours the wise. Thus the Parians have honoured Archilochus, in spite of his bitter tongue; the Chians Homer, though he was not their countryman; the Mytilenaeans Sappho, though she was a woman; the Lacedaemonians actually made Chilon a member of their senate, though they are the least literary of men; the inhabitants of Lampsacus gave public burial to Anaxagoras, though he was an alien, and honour him even to this day.

Aristotle,

Rhetoric, book 2, The Complete Works of Aristotle,

rev. Oxford trans., ed. Jonathan Barnes,

vol. 2, pp. 2228-29 (1984).

Wisdom

Never tell your resolution beforehand.

John Selden

Table Talk. Wisdom

Wisdom

Be wise;

Soar not too high to fall; but stoop to rise.

Phillip Massinger

Duke of Milan, I, 2

Wisdom

IT'S A POOR JOKE

When some woman blushes with embarrassment.

When some heart carries away an ache.

When something sacred is made to appear common.

When a man's weakness provides the cause for laughter.

When profanity is required to make it funny.

When a little child is brought to tears.

When everyone can't join in the laughter.

Exchange

Wisdom

Socrates…

Whom well inspir'd the oracle pronounc'd

Wisest of men.

John Milton

Paradise Regained, IV, 274

Wisdom

A foolish consistency is the hobgoblin of little minds, adored by little statesmen and philosophers and divines.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Wisdom

A man should never be ashamed to own he has been in the wrong, which is but saying in other words, that he is wiser today than he was yesterday.

Alexander Pope

Wisdom

A prudent question is one-half of wisdom.

Francis Bacon

Wisdom

A wise man never loses anything if he have himself.

Michel Eyquem de Montaigne

Essays, I, 38

Wisdom

A wise man, though he be a slave, is at liberty, and from this it follows that, though a fool rule, he is in slavery.

St. Ambrose

Letters, quoted by Mortimer Adler, The Idea of Freedom, p. 253.

Wisdom

A word to the wise is enough.

Benjamin Franklin

Wisdom

All human wisdom is summed up in two words: wait and hope.

Alexandre Dumas, "The Elder" (1803-1870)

The Count of Monte Cristo (1844)

Wisdom

An expert is one who knows more and more about less and less.

Nicholas Butler

Wisdom

And proud men in old age learn to be wise.

Sophocles

Wisdom

At twenty years of age the will reigns; at thirty, the wit; and at forty, the judgement.

Benjamin Franklin

Wisdom

…the folly of men is the wisdom of God.

Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1772-1834)

On the Principles of Political Knowledge (1809)

Wisdom

Authority without wisdom is like a heavy axe without an edge, fitter to bruise than polish.

Anne Bradstreet

Wisdom

Avarice of the old…absurd to increase one's baggage as one nears his journey's end.

Marcus Tullius Cicero (106-43 B.C.)

De Senectute (44 B.C.)

Wisdom

Be so true to thyself, as thou be not false to others.

Francis Bacon

Essays, Of Wisdom for a Man's Self

Wisdom

Be wisely worldly, be not worldly wise.

Francis Quarles

Wisdom

Do not ask for what you will wish you had not got.

Lucius Annaeus Seneca

Epistles, 95, 1

Wisdom

Fools make feasts, and wise men eat them.

Benjamin Franklin

Wisdom

For they wished to fill the winepress of eloquence not with the tendrils of mere words but with the rich grape juice of good sense.

St. Jerome

Letter 125

Wisdom

From his Tao-Tih-King (Thoughts on the Nature and Manifestations of God)—"God (the great Everlasting and Infinite First Cause from whom all things in heaven and earth proceed) can neither be defined nor named. For the God which can be defined or named is but the Creator, the great Mother of all those things of which our senses have cognizance." "He who knows God does not talk about Him." "A wise man may not be erudite, whilst he who is erudite may not be wise."

Lao Tse (Tao-ism)

Alexander

Wisdom

From the errors of others a wise man corrects his own.

Publilius Syrus

Wisdom

Great wisdom is generous; petty wisdom is contentious. Great speech is impassioned, small speech cantankerous.

Chuang Tse

Wisdom

He is no wise man that will quit a certainty for an uncertainty.

Samuel Johnson

Wisdom

He who has begun has half done. Dare to be wise; begin!

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Epistles, I, ii, 40

Wisdom

He who is taught to live upon little owes more to his father's wisdom than he who has a great deal left him does to his father's care.

William Penn

Wisdom

He who knows others is wise;

He who knows himself is enlightened.

Lao Tzu

The Way of Lao Tzu 33

Wisdom

He who thinks himself wise, O heavens! is a great fool.

Voltaire

Wisdom

He with whom neither slander gradually soaks into the mind, nor statements that startle like a wound in the flesh, are successful may be called intelligent indeed.

Confucius

Wisdom

I care not whether a man is Good or Evil;

all that I care

Is whether he is a Wise Man or a Fool. Go,

put off Holiness

And put on Intellect…

William Blake

Jerusalem, f. 91.

Wisdom

I do know of these,

That therefore only are reputed wise

For saying nothing.

William Shakespeare

The Merchant of Venice, I, i, 95

Wisdom

I do not believe in the collective wisdom of individual ignorance.

Thomas Carlyle

Wisdom

In clothes we value novelty; in men, old age.

Mencius

Wisdom

It is not white hair that engenders wisdom.

Menander

Wisdom

It takes a wise man to recognize a wise man.

Xenophanes

From Diogenes Laertius, Xenophanes IX

Wisdom

It's easier to be original and foolish than original and wise.

Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz

Wisdom

It's easier to be wise for others than for ourselves.

Duc de la Rochefoucauld

Wisdom

Let each man have the wit to go his own way.

Sextus Aurelius Propertius

Elegies, II, xxv, 38

Wisdom

Many people might have attained wisdom had they not assumed they already had it.

Author Unknown

Wisdom

Master Kung said, There are three things against which a gentleman is on his guard. In his youth, before his blood and vital humours have settled down, he is on his guard against lust. Having reached his prime, when the blood and vital humours have finally hardened, he is on his guard against strife. Having reached old age, when the blood and vital humours are already decaying, he is on his guard against avarice.

Confucius (551-479 B.C.)

Analects (Tr. Arthur Waley), Bk. Xvi, 7

Wisdom

Never let yesterday use up too much of today.

Will Rogers

Wisdom

No man is wise enough by himself.

Titus Maccius Plautus

Miles Gloriosus, act III, sc. iii

Wisdom

Not by age but by capacity is wisdom acquired.

Plautus

Wisdom

Not by age but by capacity is wisdom acquired.

Titus Maccius Plautus

Trinummus, act II, sc. ii, l. 88

Wisdom

Of the demonstrably wise there are but two: those who commit suicide, and those who keep their reasoning faculties atrophied with drink.

Samuel Langhorne Clemens ("Mark Twain") (1835-1910)

Notebook (published 1935)

Wisdom

Pain makes man think. Thought makes man wise. Wisdom makes life endurable.

John Patrick, The Teahouse of the August Moon, act I, scene i, p. 6 (1957). These words are spoken by Sakini, an Okinawan, to the audience. They are repeated in act III, scene iii, and at the conclusion of the play.

Wisdom

Pessimism is only the name that men of weak nerves give to wisdom.

Mark Twain

Wisdom

So wise so young, they say, do never live long.

William Shakespeare

King Richard III, III, i, 79

Wisdom

That which seems the height of absurdity in one generation often becomes the height of wisdom in the next.

Attributed to John Stuart Mill.—Adlai E. Stevenson, Call to Greatness, p. 102 (1954). Unverified.

Wisdom

The art of being wise is the art of knowing what to overlook.

William James

Wisdom

The artist appeals to the part of our being which is not dependent on wisdom; to that in us which is a gift and not an acquisition—and therefore, more permanently enduring. He speaks to our capacity for delight and wonder, to the sense of mystery surrounding our lives; to our sense of pity, and beauty and pain….

Joseph Conrad (né Korzeniowski)

The Nigger of the "Narcissus" (1897)

Wisdom

The Master said,…"If names are not correct, language is not in accordance with the truth of things. If language is not in accordance with the truth of things, affairs cannot be carried on to success…. Therefore a superior man considers it necessary that the names he uses may be spoken appropriately…. What the superior man requires, is just that in his words there may be nothing incorrect."

Confucius (551-479 B.C.)

Confucian Analects (tr. James Legge), Bk. XIII, 3

[Popularly, Confucius is credited with saying:

"The beginning of wisdom is to call things by their proper names."]

Wisdom

The more wise and powerful a master, the more directly is his work created, and the simpler it is.

Meister Eckhart

Of the Eternal Birth

Wisdom

The philosophy of one century is the common sense of the next.

Henry Ward Beecher

Wisdom

The wisdom of nations lies in their proverbs, which are brief and pithy.

William Penn

Wisdom

The wise learn many things from their enemies.

Aristophanes

Birds, 375

Wisdom

The wisest man is he who does not fancy that he is so at all.

Nicolas Boileau-Despreaux

Wisdom

There is a wisdom in this beyond the rules of physic. A man's own observation, what he finds good of and what he finds hurt of, is the best physic to preserve health.

Francis Bacon

Essays, Of Regimen of Health

Wisdom

There's many witty men whose brains can't fill their bellies.

Benjamin Franklin

Wisdom

This man of little learning grows like an ox; his flesh increases, but not his wisdom.

Suttapitaka

Wisdom

Though wisdom cannot be gotten for gold, still less can it be gotten without it. Gold, or the values of what is equivalent to gold, lies at the root of wisdom, and enters so largely into the very essence of the Holy Ghost that "no gold, no Holy Ghost" may pass as an axiom.

Samuel Butler

Note-Books.

Wisdom

To do two things at once is to do wise.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 7

Wisdom

To flee vice is the beginning of virtue, and to have got rid of folly is the beginning of wisdom.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Epistles, I, i, 41

Wisdom

Use your gift faithfully and they shall be enlarged. Practice what you know, and you shall attain higher knowledge.

Sir Edwin Arnold

Wisdom

We give advice, but we cannot give the wisdom to profit by it.

Duc de la Rochefoucauld

Wisdom

When I was a boy of 14, my father was so ignorant I could hardly stand to have the old man around. But when I got to be 21, I was astonished at how much the old man had learned in seven years.

Attributed to Mark Twain (Samuel L. Clemens).—The Beaders Ligest, September 1939, p. 22. Unverified.This has been widely reprinted and attributed to Twain, but has never been found in his works, though various Twain groups and the Twain Papers staff have searched for it.

Wisdom

Wisdom and goodness to the vile seem vile;

Filths savor but themselves.

William Shakespeare

King Lear, IV, ii, 38

Wisdom

Wisdom comes through suffering.

Aeschylus

Agamemnon, 177

Wisdom

Wisdom entereth not into a malicious mind, and science without conscience is but the ruin of the soul.

Francois Rabelais

Wisdom

Wisdom is found only in truth.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832)

Sprüche in Prosa

Wisdom

Wisdom is in the head and not in the beard.

Swedish Proverb

Wisdom

Wisdom is never dear, provided the article is genuine.

Horace Greeley

Wisdom

Wisdom is the reward you get for a lifetime of listening when you'd preferred to talk.

Doug Larson

Wisdom

Wise men are instructed in reason

Men of less understanding by experience;

The most unknowing learn by necessity

Wise men do in the beginning what fools

In the end.

Author Unknown

Wisdom

Wise men learn by others' harms, fools scarcely their own; but felix quem faciunt aliena pericula cautum. ( (Fortunate the man who learns caution from the dangers of others.))

Benjamin Franklin

Wisdom

Wise men profit more from fools than fools from wise men; for the wise men shun the mistakes of fools, but fools do not imitate the successes of the wise.

Cato

Wisdom

Wise men profit more from fools that fools from wise men; for the wise men shun the mistakes of fools, but fools do not imitate the successes of the wise.

Marcus Porcius Cato, The Elder

From Plutarch, Lives, Cato, 9

Wisdom

Wise men say nothing in dangerous times.

John Selden

Wisdom

Wise men, though all laws were abolished, would lead the same lives.

Plutarch

Wisdom

Wisely and slow; they stumble that run fast.

William Shakespeare

Romeo and Juliet, II, iii, 94

Wisdom

Wit and wisdom are born with a man.

John Selden

Wisdom

Young men, hear an old man to whom old men hearkened when he was young.

Augustus Caesar

From Plutarch, Apothegms, Caesar Augustus

Wish

A wish is a desire without an attempt.

Farmer's Digest

Wit/Humor

Home-keeping youth have ever homely wits.

William Shakespeare

The Two Gentlemen of Verona, I, i, 2

Wit/Humor

What he hath scanted men in hair, he hath given them in wit.

William Shakespeare

The Comedy of Errors, II, ii, 83

Wit/Humor

Your wit's too hot, it speeds too fast, 'twill tire.

William Shakespeare

Love's Labour's Lost, II, i, 119

Wit/Humor

Wit will shine

Through the harsh cadence of a rugged line.

John Dryden

To the Memory of Mr. Oldham, 15

Wit/Humor

A person reveals his character by nothing so clearly as the joke he resents.

G. C. Lichtenberg

Wit/Humor

A sense of humor keen enough to show a man his own absurdities will keep him from the commission of all sins, or nearly all, save those that are worth committing.

Samuel Butler

Wit/Humor

Aristotle said melancholy men of all others are most witty.

Robert Burton

Anatomy of Melancholy, I, 3, 1, 3

Wit/Humor

Don't put too fine a point to your wit for fear it should get blunted.

Miguel de Cervantes

The Little Gypsy (La Gitanilla)

Wit/Humor

Enjoy your dear wit, and gay rhetoric,

That hath so well been taught her dazzling fence.

John Milton

Comus, 790

Wit/Humor

Good wits jump; a word to the wise is enough.

Miguel de Cervantes

Don Quixote, Pt. II, III, 37, 692

Wit/Humor

Great wits are sure to madness near allied,

And thin partitions do their bounds divide.

John Dryden (1631-1700)

"Absalom and Achitophel" (1680), 1.150

Wit/Humor

Her wit was more than man, her innocence a child.

John Dryden

To the Pious Memory of Mrs. Anne Killegrew, 70

Wit/Humor

I am a great eater of beef, and I believe that does harm to my wit.

William Shakespeare

Twelfth-Night, I, iii, 92

Wit/Humor

I am not only witty in myself, but the cause that wit is in other men.

William Shakespeare

King Henry IV, II, I, ii, 10

Wit/Humor

I shall ne'er be ware of mine own wit, till I break my shins against it.

William Shakespeare

As You Like It, II, iv, 59

Wit/Humor

It is a great misfortune neither to have enough wit to talk well nor enough judgment to be silent.

Jean de la Bruyere

Wit/Humor

It seems to me (said she) that you are in some brown study.

John Lyly

Euphues: The Anatomy of Wit, Arber's reprint, p. 80

Wit/Humor

The finest edge is made with the blunt whetstone.

John Lyly

Euphues: The Anatomy of Wit, Arber's reprint, p. 39

Wit/Humor

The secret source of humor itself is not joy but sorrow. There is no humor in heaven.

Mark Twain

Wit/Humor

There's no possibility of being witty without a little ill-nature.

Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Wit/Humor

Wit is the salt of conversation, not the food.

William Hazlitt

Wit/Humor

Wit lies in the likeness of things that are different, and in the difference of things that are alike.

Madame de Stael

Wit/Humor

Wit sometimes enables us to act rudely with impunity.

Duc de la Rochefoucauld

Wives

An incautious congressman playfully ran his hand over Nick's shiny scalp and commented, "It feels just like my wife's backside." Nick instantly repeated the gesture. "So it does," he replied.

Representative Nicholas Longworth.—This episode was recounted in James Brough, Princess Alice, p. 273 (1975). A slightly different version is repeated in an article by E. Raymond Lewis in Capitol Studies, fall 1975, p. 125, and still later in R. B. and L. V. Cheney, Kings of the Hill, p. 157 (1983).

Wives

An old man weds a tyrant, not a wife.

Euripides

Wives

Every man, as the saying is, can tame a shrew but he that hath her.

Robert Burton

Wives

Gentlemen, to the lady without whom I should never have survived for eighty, nor sixty, nor yet thirty years. Her smile has been my lyric, her understanding, the rhythm of the stanza. She has been the spring wherefrom I have drawn the power to write the words. She is the poem of my life.

Attributed to Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes. Not verified in works about him nor in Magnijicent Yankee, the film about him. He expressed a similar sentiment in a letter to Sir Frederick Pollock, May 24, 1929: "For sixty years she made life poetry for me."—Holmes-Pollock Letters, ed. Mark De Wolfe Howe, vol. 2, p. 243 (1941).

Wives

He that would thrive, must ask his wife.

English Proverb

Wives

Here lies my wife: here let her lie!

Now she's at rest, and so am I.

John Dryden

Wives

I do not think it altogether inappropriate to introduce myself to this audience. I am the man who accompanied Jacqueline Kennedy to Paris, and I have enjoyed it.

President John F. Kennedy, remarks at a press luncheon, Paris, France, June 2, 1961.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: John F Kennedy, 1961, p. 429.

Wives

Lady Nancy Astor: If I were your wife I'd put poison in your coffee.

Winston Churchill: If I were your husband I'd drink it.

Exchange described as a false story by George Thayer in a review of a book about Churchill.—The Washington Post, April 27, 1971, p. B6.

Thayer spent a year as research assistant to Randolph Churchill on the biography of his father, Sir Winston Churchill. Another story Thayer declared false has Lady Astor reproaching Churchill, "Winston, you are drunk," to which he replied, "Indeed, Madam, and you are ugly—but tomorrow I'll be sober."

Wives

Look you, Amanda, you may build castles in the air, and fume, and fret, and grow thin and lean, and pale and ugly, if you please. But I tell you, no Man worth having is true to his Wife, or can be true to his Wife, or ever was, or ever will be so.

Sir John Vanbrugh, "The Relapse; or, Virtue in Danger," act III, scene ii, Plays, p. 56 (1759). Berinthia is speaking.

Wives

Lord of yourself, uncumbered with a wife.

John Dryden

Wives

Man's best possession is a sympathetic wife.

Euripides

Wives

No man worth having is true to his wife, or can be true to his wife, or ever was, or ever will be so.

John Vanbrugh

Wives

Rich widows are the only secondhand goods that sell at first-class prices.

Attributed to Benjamin Franklin.—The Home Book of Humorous Ouotations, ed. A. K. Adams, p. 378 (1969). Unverified.

Women

14. Women from fourteen years upwards are called 'madam' by men. Wherefore when they see that the only advantage they have got is to be marriageable, they begin to adorn themselves and to set all their hopes on this.

Epictetus (c. 50-120 A.D.)

The Manual of Epictetus (The Encheiridion)

Women

Women are angels, wooing:

Things won are done; joy's soul lies in the doing.

William Shakespeare

Troilus and Cressida, I, ii, 310

Women

A woman hath nine lives like a cat.

John Heywood

Proverbs, pt. II, ch. 4

Women

A woman is always a fickle, unstable thing.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aeneid, IV, 569

Women

A woman should be good for everything at home, but abroad good for nothing.

Euripides (485-406 B.C.)

Fragments, 525

Women

A woman well bred and well taught, furnished with the additional accomplishments of knowledge and behavior, is a creature without comparison.

Daniel Defoe (1660?-1731)

An Essay Upon Projects, "An Academy for Women" (1697)

Women

A woman would run through fire and water for such a kind heart.

William Shakespeare

The Merry Wives of Windsor, III, iv, 106

Women

And without partiality, a woman of sense and manners is the finest and most delicate part of God's creation, the glory of her Maker, and the great instance of his singular regard to man, his darling creature, to whom he gave the best gift either God could bestow or man receive.

Daniel Defoe (1660?-1731)

An Essay Upon Projects, "An Academy for Women" (1697)

Women

Cherchez la femme.

Look for the woman.

Alexandre Dumas, "The Elder" (1803-1870)

Les Mohicans de Paris (1854-1855)

Women

Gloriously perjured, a maiden famous to all time.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Odes, III, xi, 35

Women

I hate a clever woman—God forbid that I should ever have a wife at home with more than woman's wits.

Euripides (485-406 B.C.)

Hippolytus (429 B.C.)

Women

Mothers, wives, and maids—there be the tools wherewith priests manage men.

Robert Browning

The Ring and the Book, iv.

Women

O woman, perfect woman! what distraction

Was meant to mankind when thou wast made a devil!

John Fletcher

Monsieur Thomas, III, 1

Women

The liveliest desire of a woman's heart is not so much to please but to please more than other women.

Eckharthausen

Women

The wife should yield in all things to her lord.

Euripides (485-406 B.C.)

Electra (415 B.C.)

Women

Was ever woman in this humor woo'd?

Was ever woman in this humor won?

William Shakespeare

King Richard III, I, ii, 229

Women

We would have every arbitrary barrier thrown down. We would have every path laid open to Woman as freely as to Man.

(Sarah) Margaret Fuller, Marchioness Ossoli

Woman in the Nineteenth Century (1845)

Women

Woman can be emancipated only when she can take a part on a large social scale in production and is engaged in a domestic work only to an insignificant degree, and this has become possible only in the big industry of modern times….

Friedrich Engels (1820-1895)

The Origin of the Family (1894)

Women

Woman may be said to be an inferior man.

Aristotle

Women

Woman—a foe of friendship, an inescapable punishment, a necessary evil.

St. Joannes Chrysostomus (St. John Chrysostom) (345?-407)

Attributed

Women

A woman that is neither fair nor good, to what use serves she? To make a nun of, said Gargantua. Yea, said the monk, to make shirts and smocks.

Rabelais, Gargantua and Pantagruel, I, 52

Women

As for the carrying off of women, it is the deed, they say, of a rogue: but to make a stir about such as are carried off, argues a man a fool. Men of sense care nothing for such women, since it is plain that without their own consent they would never be forced away.

Herodotus, History, I, 4

Women

I do not intend, for the mere sake of correcting an inappropriate word, to enter upon a comparative study of the two sexes. Suffice it to say that woman is as intelligent as man, but that she is less capable of emotion, and that if there is any faculty or power of the soul which seems to attain less development in woman than in man, it is not intelligence, but sensibility. I mean of course sensibility in the depths, not agitation at the surface.

Bergson, Two Sources of Morality and Religion, I

Women

I should like to know what is the proper function of women, if it is not to make reasons for husbands to stay at home, and still stronger reasons for bachelors to go out.

George Eliot, The Mill on the Floss, VI, 6

Women

It is, indeed, fortunate that the low of the equal transmission of characters to both sexes prevails with mammals; otherwise, it is probable that man would have become as superior in mental endowment to woman, as the peacock is in ornamental plumage to the peahen.

Charles Darwin, Descent of Man, III, 19

Women

It must be admitted that women have but little sense of justice, and this is no doubt connected with the preponderance of envy in their mental life; for the demands of justice are a modification of envy; they lay down the conditions under which one is willing to part with it.

Freud, New Introductory Lectures on Psycho-Analysis, XXXIII

Women

It was necessary for woman to be made, as the Scripture says, as a helper to man; not, indeed, as a helpmate in other works, as some say, since man can be more efficiently helped by another man in other works, but as a helper in the work of generation.

Aquinas, Summa Theologica, I, 92, 1

Women

Just as in the human soul there is one element which takes thought and dominates, another which is subjected to obedience, so woman has been created corporeally for man: for though she has indeed a nature like that of man in her mind and rational intelligence, yet by her bodily sex she is subjected to the sex of her husband, much as appetite, which is the source of action, must be subjected to reason.

Augustine, Confessions, XIII, 32

Women

Man is no longer, like Don Juan, victor in the duel of sex. Whether he has ever really been may be doubted: at all events the enormous superiority of woman's natural position in this matter is telling with greater and greater force.

Shaw, Man and Superman, Epistle Dedicatory

Women

The most useful and honorable science and occupation for a woman is the science of housekeeping. I know some that are miserly, very few that are good managers. This is her ruling quality, which a man should seek out before any other, as the sole dowry on which the ruin or salvation of our households depends.

Montaigne, Essays, III, 9, Of Vanity

Women

Throughout the ages, the problem is that women have puzzled people of every kind.

Freud, New Introductory Lectures on Psycho-Analysis, XXXIII

Women

Women are not wrong at all when they reject the rules of life that have been introduced into the world, inasmuch as it is the men who have made these without them. There is naturally strife and wrangling between them and us: the closest communion we have with them is still tumultuous and tempestuous.

Montaigne, Essays, III, 5, On Some Verses of Virgil

Women

"Eh! By God's mercy!" cried our host. Said he:

"Now such a wife I pray God keep from me!

Behold what tricks, and lo, what subtleties

In women are. For always busy as bees

Are they, us simple men thus to deceive,

And from the truth they turn aside and leave."

Geoffrey Chaucer, Canterbury Tales: Merchant's Tale, Epilogue

Women

A Nation spoke to a Nation,

A Queen sent word to a Throne:

'Daughter am I in my mother's house,

But mistress in my own.

The gates are mine to open,

As the gates are mine to close,

And I set my house in order,'

Said our Lady of the Snows.

Rudyard Kipling,

"Our Lady of the Snows," stanza 1,

The Collected Works of Budyard Kipling:

The Seven Seas, The Five Nations, The Years Between,

vol. 26, p. 227 (1941, reprinted 1970).

The poem is about the Canadian preferential tariff of 1897.

Women

A woman always has her revenge ready.

Molière [Jean Baptiste Poquelin]

Tartuffe, II, 2

Women

A woman's time of opportunity is short, and if she doesn't seize it, no one wants to marry her, and she sits watching for omens.

Aristophanes

Women

And behind every man who's a failure there's a woman, too!

John Ruge, cartoon caption, Playboy, March 1967, p. 138.

Women

England is a paradise for women and hell for horses; Italy a paradise for horses, hell for women, as the diverb goes.

Robert Burton

Anatomy of Melancholy, III, 3, 1, 2

Women

For just as some women are said to be handsome though without adornment, so this subtle manner of speech, though lacking in artificial graces, delights us.

Marcus Tullius Cicero

Orator ad M. Brutum, 78

Women

Great is the gory of the woman who occasions the least talk among men, whether of praise or of blame.

Thucydides

Women

Home is the girl's prison and the woman's workhouse.

Shaw, Man and Superman, Maxims for Revolutionists

Women

However gifted and accomplished a young man may be, if he has no fondness for women, one has a feeling of something lacking, as of a precious wine cup without a bottom.

Yoshida Kenko

Tsurezure-Gusa (Essays in Idleness)

Women

I confess that I do not understand the principle on which the power to fix a minimum for the wages of women can be denied by those who admit the power to fix a maximum for their hours of work. I fully assent to the proposition that here as elsewhere the distinctions of the law are distinctions of degree, but I perceive no difference in the kind or degree of interference with liberty, the only matter with which we have any concern, between the one case and the other. The bargain is equally affected whichever half you regnlate….It will need more than the Nineteenth Amendment to convince me that there are no differences between men and women, or that legislation cannot take those differences into account.

Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, dissenting, Adkins, et al., Constituting the Minimum Wage Board of the District of Columbia, v. Children's Hospital of the District of Columbia; Same v. Lyons, 261 U.S. 569-70 (1923).

Women

I have often thought of it as one of the most barbarous customs in the world, considering us as a civilized and Christian country, that we deny the advantages of learning to women.

Daniel Defoe (1660?-1731)

An Essay Upon Projects, "An Academy for Women" (1697)

Women

I know the disposition of women; when you will, they won't; when you won't, they set their hearts upon you of their own inclination.

Terence

Women

I long to hear that you have declared an independency. And in the new code of laws, which I suppose it will be necessary for you to make, I desire you would remember the ladies, and be more generous and favorable to them than your ancestors….If particular care and attention is not paid to the ladies, we are determined to foment a rebellion and will not hold ourselves bound by any laws in which we have no voice or representation.

Abigail Adams

Letter to John Adams, 1774.

Women

If particuliar care and attention is not paid to the Ladies we are determined to foment a Rebellion, and will not hold ourselves bound by any Laws in which we have no voice, or Representation.

Abigail Adams, letter to John Adams, March 31, 1776.—Adams Family Correspondence, ed. L. H. Butterfield, vol. 1, p. 370 (1963).

Women

In order that she may be able to give her hand with dignity, she must be able to stand alone.

Margaret Fuller

Women

It is a token of healthy and gentle characteristics, when women of high thoughts and accomplishments love to sew; especially as they are never more at home with their own hearts than while so occupied.

Nathaniel Hawthorne

Women

It is impossible to live with them [women], or without them.

Desiderius Erasmus (1465-1536)

Adagia (1500)

Women

Like untuned golden strings all women are

Which long time lie untoucht, will harshly jar.

Vessels of brass oft handled brightly shine.

Christopher Marlowe

Hero and Leander

Women

Man has his will, but woman has her way.

Oliver Wendell Holmes

Women

Next to God, we are indebted to women, first for life itself, and then for making it worth having.

C. Nestell Bovee, Thoughts, Feelings, and Fancies, p. 308 (1857).

Women

Oh do not die, for I shall hate

All women so, when thou art gone.

John Donne

The Fever, 1

Women

Old women should not seek to be perfumed.

Archiloghus

Women

On one issue, at least, men and women agree: they both distrust women.

H. L. Mencken, A Little Book in C Major p. 59 (1916).

Women

Once a woman has given you her heart you can never get rid of the rest of her.

John Vanbrugh

Women

One should never trust a woman who tells one her real age. A woman who would tell one that would tell one anything.

Oscar Wilde, A Woman of No Importance, act I, in The Complete Works of Oscar Wilde, vol. 7, p. 197 (1923). Lord Illingworth is speaking.

Women

Patience makes a woman beautiful in middle age.

Attributed to Elliot Paul. Unverified.

Women

Prostitution degrades, among women, only the unfortunate ones to whose lot it falls, and even these not at all to the extent that is commonly believed. On the other hand, it degrades the character of the whole world of men.

Friedrich Engels (1820-1895)

The Origin of the Family (1894)

Women

That's the nature of women…not to love when we love them, and to love when we love them not.

Miguel de Cervantes

Don Quixote, Pt. I, III, 6, 133

Women

The capacities of women are supposed to be greater, and their senses quicker than those of men; and what they may be capable of being bred to, is plain from some instances of female wit, which this age is not without, which upbraids us with injustice, and looks as if we denied women the advantage of education, for fear they should vie with the men in their improvements.

Daniel Defoe (1660?-1731)

An Essay Upon Projects, "An Academy for Women" (1697)

Women

The Master said, Women and people of low birth are very hard to deal with. If you are friendly with them, they get out of hand, and if you keep your distance, they resent it.

Confucius (551-479 B.C.)

Analects (tr. Arthur Waley), Bk. XVII, 25

Women

The only question left to be settled now is: Are women persons?

Susan B. Anthony

Women

There are two days when a woman is a pleasure: the day one marries her and the day one buries her.

Hipponax

Women

There is in every true woman's heart a spark of heavenly fire, which lies dormant in the broad daylight of prosperity; but which kindles up, and beams and blazes in the dark hour of adversity.

Washington Irving

Women

There is no animal more invincible than a woman, nor fire either, nor any wildcat so ruthless.

Aristophanes

Women

There's nothing worse in the world than shameless woman—save some other woman.

Aristophanes

Women

These impossible women! How they do get around us! The poet was right: can't live with them, or without them!

Aristophanes

Women

They talk about a woman's sphere as though it had a limit;

There's not a place in Earth or Heaven,

There's not a task to mankind given,

There's not a blessing or a woe,

There's not a whispered yes or no,

There's not a life, or death, or birth,

That has a feather's weight or worth—

Without a woman in it.

C. E. Bowman, "The Sphere of Woman."—Joseph M. Chapple, Heart Throbs in Prose and Verse, p. 343 (1905).

A similar version:

They talk about a 'woman's sphere'

As though it has a limit;

There's not a spot on sea or shore

In sanctum, office, shop or store,

Without a woman in it.

Author unknown.—Jennie Day Haines, Sovereign Woman Versus Mere Man, p. 50 (1905).

Women

Wer Weibern traut, pflügt die Winde

Und saet aus die Wüste See,

Misst des verborgenen Meeres Gründe,

Schreibt sein Gedächtniss in den Schnee,

Schöpft, wie die Schwestern ohne Liebe,

Das Wasser mit dem hohlen Siebe.

He who trusts women ploughs the wind, sows the barren sea, finds not the bottom of the barren ocean, writes his recollections in the snow, draws water like the Danaides, with pitchers full of holes.

Paul Flemin (1609-1640)

"Der beste Rath" ["The Best Advice"]

Women

Will Honeycomb calls these overoffended ladies the outrageously virtuous.

Richard Steele

Women

Woman was not taken from the head of man; for she was not intended to be his ruler; nor from the his feet; for she was not intended to be his slave; but from his side for she was to be his companion.

Tertullian

Women

Woman's at best a contradiction still.

Alexander Pope

Women

Women and elephants never forget.

Dorothy Parker

Women

Women are much more like each other than men; they have, in truth, but two passions, vanity and love; these are their universal characteristics.

Philip Dormer Stanhope,

4th Earl of Chesterfield (1694-1773)

Letters to His Son, December 19, 1749

Women

Women could take part in the processions, the songs, the dances, of old religions; no one fancied their delicacy was impaired by appearing in public for such a cause.

Margaret Fuller

Women

Women have, commonly, a very positive moral sense; that which they will, is right; that which they reject, is wrong; and their will, in most cases, ends by settling the moral.

Henry Adams

Women

Women run to extremes; they are either better or worse than men.

Jean de la Bruyere

Women

Women wear the breeches…in a word, the world turned upside downward.

Robert Burton

Anatomy of Melancholy. Democritus to the Reader

Women

Women who are either indisputably beautiful, or indisputably ugly, are best flattered upon the score of their understandings; but those who are in a state of mediocrity are best flattered upon their beauty, or at least their graces; for every woman who is not absolutely ugly thinks herself handsome.

Philip Stanhope

Women

Women, especially, are to be talked to, as below men, and above children.

Philip Dormer Stanhope,

4th Earl of Chesterfield (1694-1773)

Letters to His Son, September 20, 1748

Women

Women, then, are only children of a larger growth.

Philip Stanhope

Women

You ask what a nice girl will do? She won't give an inch, but she won't say no.

Martial [Marcus Valerius Martialis]

Epigrams, IV, 71

Women

The happiest women, like the happiest nations, have no history.

George Eliot, The Mill on the Floss, VI, 3

Women/Women's Lib

A woman is but an animal, and an animal not of the highest order.

Edmund Burke

Women/Women's Lib

If particular care and attention is not paid to the ladies, we are determined to foment a rebellion and will not hold ourselves bound by any laws in which we have no voice or representation.

Abigail Adams

Women/Women's Lib

In practical life, the woman is judged by man's law, as if she were a man, not a woman.

Henrik Ibsen

Women/Women's Lib

Once made equal to man, woman becomes his superior.

Socrates

Women/Women's Lib

To the women He said, "I will greatly multiply your pain in child bearing; in pain you shall bring forth children yet your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you."

The Bible (Genesis 3:16)

Women/Women's Lib

Verily the best of women are those who are content with little.

Mohammed

Women/Women's Lib

Women should remain at home, sit still, keep house, and bear and bring up children.

Martin Luther

Wonder

Wonder is the feeling of a philosopher, and philosophy begins in wonder.

Socrates

Words

"When I use a word," Humpty Dumpty said, in rather a scornful tone, "it means just what I choose it to mean—neither more nor less." "The question is," said Alice, "whether you can make words mean so many different things." "The question is," said Humpty Dumpty, "which is to be master—that's all."

Lewis Carroll (Charles L. Dodgson), Through the Looking-Glass, chapter 6, p. 205 (1934). First published in 1872.

Words

A barren superfluity of words.

Samuel Garth

Words

A blow with a word strikes deeper than a blow with a sword.

Robert Burton

The Anatomy of Melancholy.

Words

A killing tongue, but a quiet sword.

Shakespeare

Words

A very great part of the mischiefs that vex this world arises from words.

Edmund Burke

Words

A word is not a crystal, transparent and unchanged, it is the skin of a living thought and may vary greatly in color and content according to the circumstances and the time in which it is used.

Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, Towne v. Eisner 245 U.S. 425 (1918).

Words

Abuse of words has been the great instrument of sophistry and chicanery, of party, faction, and division of society.

John Adams

To J. H. Tiffany, March 31, 1819.

Words

And when a whirl-winde hath blowne the dust of the Churchyard into the Church, and man sweeps out the dust of the Church into the Church-yard, who will undertake to sift those dusts again, and to pronounce, This is the Patrician, this is the noble flower, and this the yeomanly, this the Plebian bran.

John Donne (1573-1631)

Sermons (1619)

Words

Antiphanes said merrily that in a certain city the cold was so intense that words were congealed as soon as spoken, but that after some time they thawed and became audible; so that the words spoken in winter were articulated next summer.

Plutarch

Morals. Of Man's Progress in Virtue

Words

But the Idols of the Market-place are the most troublesome of all idols which have crept into the understanding through the alliances of words and names. For men believe that their reason governs words; but it is also true that words react on the understanding and this it is that had rendered philosophy and the sciences sophistical and inactive. Now words, being commonly framed and applied according to the capacity of the vulgar, follow those lines of division which are most obvious to the vulgar understanding. And whenever understanding of greater acuteness or a more diligent observation would alter those lines to suit the true divisions of nature, words stand in the way and resist the change. Whence it comes to pass that the high and formal discussions of learned men and often-times in disputes about words and names; with which (according to the use and wisdom of the mathematicians) it would be more prudent to begin, and so by means of definitions reduce them to order.

Francis Bacon

Novum Organum, Aphorism., lix.

Words

Commonly they whose tongue is their weapon, use their feet for defense.

Sir P. Sidney

Words

Every word almost was a sentence; every sentence a victory.

St. Vincent of Lerins

Commonitorium, ch. 18

Words

For it is by discourse that men associate; and words are imposed according to the apprehension of the vulgar. And therefore the ill and unfit choice of words wonderfully obstructs the understanding. ….Words plainly force and overrule the understanding, and throw all into confusion, and lead men away into numberless empty controversies and idle fancies.

Francis Bacon

Novum Organum, Aphorism., xliii.

Words

He can compress the most words into the smallest idea of any man I ever met.

Abraham Lincoln

Words

I am not so lost in lexicography as to forget that words are the daughters of earth, and that things are the sons of heaven.

Samuel Johnson

Words

I love to watch the rooster crow, he's like so many men I know, who brag and bluster, rant and shout and beat their manly chests without a single thing to brag about.

Author Unknown

Words

I never write metropolis for seven cents because I can get the same price for city. I never write policeman because I can get the same money for cop.

Mark Twain

Words

I wish he would explain his explanation.

George Gordon, Lord Byron

Words

In Words, as Fashions, the same Rule will hold;

Alike Fantastick, if too Nem or Old;

Be not the first by whom the New are try'd,

Nor yet the last to lay the Old aside.

Alexander Pope,

"An Essay on Criticism,"

Poems of Alexander Pope,

ed. E. Audra and Aubrey Williams,

vol. 1, p. 276, lines 333-36 (1961).

Words

Keep a good tongue in your head.

William Shakespeare

The Tempest, III, ii, 41

Words

Keep your words soft and sweet, you never know when you will have to eat them.

Author Unknown

Words

Lexicographer: A writer of dictionaries, a harmless drudge.

Samuel Johnson

Words

Men of few words are the best men.

William Shakespeare

King Henry V, III, ii, 40

Words

Oaths are but words, and words are but wind.

Samuel Butler

Words

On his tongue they pour sweet dew, and from his mouth flow gentle words.

Hesiod

Ib. 83

Words

Pereant qui nostra ante nos dixerunt.

May they perish who have used our words before us.

Anonymous Latin Saying

Words

Similes are like songs of love:

They much describe; they nothing prove.

Matthew Prior

Words

The most valuable of all talents is that of never using two words when one will do.

Thomas Jefferson

Words

The paper burns, but the words fly away.

Ben Joseph Akiba

Words

There are four words of which the Master barred the use; he would have no "shall's," no "musts," no "certainly's," no "I's."

Confucius (551-479 B.C.)

Analects (Various Translations)

Words

These Macedonians are a rude and clownish people; they call a spade a spade.

Plutarch

Words

Virginity, mysticism, melancholy! Three unknown words, three new maladies brought by Christ.

Théophile Gautier (1811-1872)

Mademoiselle De Maupin (1855)

Words

We have too many high sounding words, and too few actions that correspond with them.

Abigail Adams

Words

We should have a great many fewer disputes in the world if words were taken for what they are, the signs of our ideas only, and not for things themselves.

John Locke

Words

Whatever kind of word thou speakest the like shalt thou hear.

Greek Anthology [Loeb Classical Library], IX, 382

Words

When I use a word, it means just what I choose it to mean—neither more nor less.

Lewis Carroll

Words

Words are the physicians of a mind diseased.

Aeschylus

Prometheus Bound, 378

Words

Words are wise men's counters, they do but reckon with them, but they are the money of fools.

Thomas Hobbes

Words

Words differently arranged have a different meaning, and meanings differently arranged have a different effect.

Blaise Pascal

Words

Words have a longer life than deeds.

Pindar

Nemean Odes IV, 10

Words

Words pay no debts.

William Shakespeare

Troilus and Cressida, III, ii, 56

Work

"Let thine occupations be few," saith the sage, "if thou wouldst lead a tranquil life."

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

Meditations, IV, 24

Work

A man is not paid for having a head and hands but for using them.

Author Unknown

Work

A man who is pulling his own weight never has any left over to throw around.

Author Unknown

Work

A work that aspires, however humbly, to the condition of art should carry its justification in every line.

Joseph Conrad (né Korzeniowski)

The Nigger of the "Narcissus" (1897)

Work

All aglow is the work.

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Georgics, IV, 169

Work

All work, even cotton-spinning, is noble; work is alone noble.

Thomas Carlyle

Past and Present, 1, 1843.

Work

And now I have finished a work that neither the wrath of love, nor fire, nor the sword, nor devouring age shall be able to destroy.

Ovid [Publius Ovidius Naso]

Metamorphoses, XV, 871

Work

Anyone can do any amount of work, provided it isn't the work he is supposed to be doing at that moment.

Robert Benchley

Work

Anyone can hold the helm when the sea is calm.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 358

Work

As good play for nothing, you know, as work for nothing.

Sir Walter Scott,

letter to Charles Kirkpatrick Sharpe,

December 30, 1808.

—John Gibson Lockhart,

The Life of Sir Walter Scott, vol. 3,

p. 144 (1902, reprinted 1983).

Another use of this proverb was attributed, in an obituary,

to Sir Alexander Cockburn, Lord Chief Justice of England.

"He subsequently acquired a large practice in London in

railway and election cases. Although he did his best for his

clients, he was careful that they should do their duty by him,

and the story is told that on one occasion, when an election

committee met, Mr. Cockburn, the counsel for one of the

parties, was absent because his fee had not accompanied the

brief, and the only message left was that he had gone to the

Derby, with the remark that 'a man might as well play for nothing

as work for nothing.'"—Canada Law Journal, January 1, 1881, p. 11.

Work

Being forced to work, and forced to do your best, will breed in you temperance and self-control, diligence and strength of will, cheerfulness and content, and a hundred virtues which the idle will never know.

Charles Kingsley

Work

Blessed is he who has found his work; let him ask no other blessedness. He has a work, a life-purpose; he has found it and will follow it.

Thomas Carlyle

Past and Present, 1, 1843.

Work

Do the day's work. If it be to protect the rights of the weak, whoever objects, do it. If it be to help a powerful corporation better to serve the people, whatever the opposition, do that. Expect to be called a stand-patter, but don't be a stand-patter. Expect to be called a demagogue, but don't be a demagogue. Don't hesitate to be as revolutionary as science. Don't hesitate to be as reactionary as the multiplication table. Don't expect to build up the weak by pulling down the strong. Don't hurry to legislate. Give administration a chance to catch up with legislation.

Calvin Coolidge, speech to the Massachusetts state Senate on being elected its president, Boston, Massachusetts, January 7, 1914.—Coolidge, Have Faith in Massachusetts, pp. 7-8 (1919).

Work

Don't be a hold out, you go all out and life will not hold-out on you.

Author Unknown

Work

Don't be fooled by the calendar. There are only as many days in the year as we make use of. One man can get a week's value out of a full year, while another can get a full year's value out of a week.

Charles Richards

Work

Drive a nail home and clinch it so faithfully that you can wake up in the night and think of your work with satisfaction,—a work at which you would not be ashamed to invoke the Muse.

Henry David Thoreau, Walden, chapter 18, p. 436 (1966). Originally published in 1854.

Work

Each day look back on your work of yesterday—Then try to beat it.

Sheldon

Work

Even in the meanest sorts of labor, the whole soul of a man is composed into a kind of real harmony the instant he sets himself to work.

Thomas Carlyle

Work

Folks who never do any more than they get paid for, never get paid for anymore than they do.

Elbert Hubbard

Work

God sells us all things at the price of labor.

Leonardo da Vinci

Work

Hard work is an accumulation of easy things you didn't do when you should have.

Author Unknown

Work

He that hath a trade hath an estate; and he that hath a calling, hath an office of profit and honor.

Benjamin Franklin

Work

He that would leave foot prints in the sands of time must wear work shoes.

Author Unknown

Work

I am glad the eight-hour day had not been invented when I was a young man.

Thomas A. Edison

Work

I believe in work, hard work, and long hours of work. Men do not breakdown from overwork, but from worry and dissipation.

Charles Hughes

Work

I long to accomplish a great and noble task, but it is my chief duty to accomplish humble tasks as though they were great and noble. The world is moved along, not only by the mighty shoves of its heroes, but also by the aggregate of the tiny pushes of each honest worker.

Attributed to Helen Keller.—Charles L. Wallis, The Treasure Chest, p. 240 (1983). Unverified.

Work

I never did a days' work in my life—it was all fun.

Thomas A. Edison

Work

I never did anything worth doing by accident, nor did any of my inventions come by accident. They came by work.

Thomas A. Edison

Work

If you work for a man, in heaven's name work for him!

If he pays you wages that supply you your bread and butter, work for him—speak well of him, think well of him, stand by him and stand by the institution he represents.

I think if I worked for a man I would work for him. I would not work for him a part of the time, and the rest of the time work against him. I would give an undivided service or none. If put to the pinch, an ounce of loyalty is worth a pound of cleverness.

Elbert Hubbard, "Get Out or Get in Line' Selected Writings of Elbert Hubbard, pp. 59-60 (1928).

Work

In a state of nature it is an invariable law, that a man's acquisitions are in proportion to his labours. In a state of artificial society, it is a law as constant and as invariable, that those who labour not at all, have the greatest number of enjoyments.

Edmund Burke

A Vindication of Natural Society, 1756.

Work

In the Great Society, work shall be an outlet for man's interests and desires. Each individual shall have full opportunity to use his capacities in employment which satisfies personally and contributes generally to the quality of the Nation's life.

President Lyndon B. Johnson, Manpower Report of the President, March 5, 1965.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Lyndon B. Johnson, 1965, book 1, p. 262.

Work

It is not enough to be busy…the question is: what are we busy about?

Henry David Thoreau

Work

It is not work that kills men; it is worry. Work is healthy; you can hardly put more upon a man than he can bear. Worry is the rust upon the blade. It is not the revolution which destroys the machinery but the friction. Fear secretes acids; but love and trust are sweet juices.

Henry Ward Beecher

Work

Life will give you what you ask of her if only you work long enough and hard enough.

E. Nesbitt

Work

Look for a tough wedge for a tough log.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 723

Work

Love the little trade which thou hast learned, and be content therewith.

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

Meditations, IV, 31

Work

My father taught me to work, but not to love it. I never did like to work, and I don't deny it. I'd rather read, tell stories, crack jokes, talk, laugh—anything but work.

Abraham Lincoln

Work

My share of the work may be limited, but the fact that it is work makes it precious.

Helen Keller

Work

No life ever grows great until it is focused, dedicated and disciplined.

Author Unknown

Work

Nothing is more fun than to have a little more to do than you get through with.

William Wrighley

Work

Nothing is really work unless you would rather be doing something else.

Attributed to Sir James M. Barrie.—The International Encyclopedia of Quotations, comp. John P. Bradley, Leo F. Daniels, and Thomas C. Jones, p. 781 (1978). Unverified.

Work

Nothing is so certain as that the evils of idleness can be shaken off by hard work.

Lucius Annaeus Seneca

Epistles, 56, 9

Work

Nothing is to be gotten without pains.

English Proverb

Work

Plans get you into things but you got to work your way out.

Will Rogers

Work

Play needs direction as well as work.

Elbert Hubbard

Work

THE ART OF WORK

Work brings man to life, sets him in motion. WORK is man in action doing things. Nothing happens until people go to WORK….WORK creates the world we live in.

The art of WORK consists of what you think about your WORK, how you feel about your WORK and what you do about your WORK.

IT IS abolishing the concept of WORK as chains and slavery, and seeing it as freedom to create and build and help.

IT IS striving to find WORK you can love, a job to which you can harness your heart.

IT IS idealizing your WORK, turning a job into a mission, a task into a career.

IT IS doing your present WORK so well that it will open doors to new opportunities. Tasks done at a high standard pave the way to bigger things.

IT IS discovering the great healing power of WORK.

If you are lonely….WORK! If you are worried or fearful….WORK!

If you are discouraged or defeated….WORK!

WORK is the key to happiness.

IT IS making your WORK, you. It is putting the stamp of your unique personality on the WORK you do. It is pouring your spirit into your task. It is making your WORK a reflection of your faith, your integrity, your ideals.

IT IS recognizing that WORK, not repose, is the destiny of man.

IT IS going to your WORK as you go to worship, with a prayer of thankfulness and the aspiration to serve.

James W. Elliott said it all in nine words:

"WORK is life and good WORK is good life."

Wilfred A. Peterson

Work

Thank God every morning when you get up that you have something to do that day which must be done; whether you like it or not. Being forced to work and forced to do your best will breed in you temperance and self control; diligence and strength of will; cheerfulness and content; and a hundred virtues which the idle never know.

Charles Kingsley

Work

The beginning is the most important part of the work.

Plato

The Republic, I, 377-B

Work

The crowning fortune of a man is to be born to some pursuit which finds him employment and happiness, whether it be to make baskets, or broadswords, or candles, or statues, or songs.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Work

The dawn speeds a man on his journey, and speeds him too in his work.

Hesiod

Ib. 579

Work

The day is short, the labor long, the workers are idle, and reward is great, and the Master is urgent.

Aboth, 2:15, saying of Rabbi Tarfon.

Pirkay Avot, often known in English as the

"Chapters of the Fathers," is the best known of the books

of the Mishnah, first part of the Talmud. Translations vary;

that above is from A Treasury of Jewish Quotations,

ed. Joseph L. Baron, p. 277 (1956).

Work

The height of great men reached and kept was not attained in sudden flight but they, while their companions slept were toiling upward in the night.

Author Unknown

Work

The highest reward for a man's toil is not what he gets from it, but what he becomes by it.

Author Unknown

Work

The most unhappy of all men is the man who cannot tell what he is going to do, who has got no work cut-out for him in the world, and does not go into it. For work is the grand cure of all the maladies and miseries that ever beset mankind,—honest work, which you intend getting done.

Thomas Carlyle, inaugural address as rector of the University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Scotland, April 2, 1866.—Carlyle, Critical and Miscellaneous Essays, vol. 6 (vol. 29 of The Works of Thomas Carlyle), p. 455 (1899, reprinted 1969).

Work

The mountains will be in labor, and a ridiculous mose will be brought forth.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Epistles, III, 139

Work

The only purpose of your activity is to get results.

Charles C. Johnson

Work

The ruin of most men dates from idle moments.

Hilliard

Work

The shoemaker makes a good shoe because he makes nothing else.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Work

There is always hope in a man who actually and earnestly works. In idleness alone is there perpetual despair

Thomas Carlyle

Work

There is perennial nobleness and even sacredness in work. There is always hope in a man who actually and earnestly works. There is perpetual despair in idleness alone.

Thomas Carlyle

Work

To youth I have but three words of counsel—Work, work, work.

Bismarck

Work

Vigor is contagious; and whatever makes us either think or feel strongly adds to our power and enlarges our field of action.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Work

Wanting to work is so rare a merit that it should be encouraged.

Abraham Lincoln

Work

What we obtain too cheap, we esteem too lightly;—'tis dearness that only that gives everything its value.

Thomas Paine

Work

When a lady once asked Turner; the celebrated English painter; what his secret was; he replied; 'I have no secret; madam; but hard work. This is the secret that many never learn; and they do not succeed because they do not learn it. Labor is the genius which changes the world from ugliness to beauty and the great curse to a blessing.

Author Unknown

Work

When a man feels the world owes him a living, he is usually too lazy to collect it.

Author Unknown

Work

When a thing is not worth overdoing, let it alone.

Henry S. Haskins

Work

When I was a young man, I observed that nine out of ten things I did were failures, so I did ten times as much work.

George Bernard Shaw

Work

When men are employed, they are best contented; for on the days they worked they were good-natured and cheerful, and, with the consciousness of having done a good day's work, they spent the evening jollily; but on our idle days they were mutinous and quarrelsome.

Benjamin Franklin

Work

When men are rightly occupied, their amusement grows out of their work, as the color petals out of a fruitful flower; when they are faithfully helpful and compassionate all their emotions are steady, deep, perpetual and vivifying to the soul as is the natural pulse to the body.

John Ruskin

Work

Work consists of whatever a body is obliged to do.. Play consists of whatever a body is not obliged to do.

Mark Twain

Work

Work is the mission of mankind on this earth.

George Bernard Shaw

Work

Work while it is called today, for you know not how much you may be hindered tomorrow.

Benjamin Franklin

Work

You must obey this now for a law, that he that will not worke shall not eate (except by sicknesse he be disabled:) for the labours of thirtie or fortie honest and industrious men shall not be consumed to maintaine an hundred and fiftie idle loyterers.

Captain John Smith, advice to his company when he was governor of Jamestown Colony, Virginia, 1608.—Smith, The Generall Historie of Virginia, New England & The Summer Isles, vol. 1, chapter 10, p. 174 (1907).The preceding paragraph notes that "six houres each day was spent in worke, the rest in Pastime and merry exercises, but the untowardnesse of the greatest number caused the President [to] advise as followeth."

Work

You never will be saved by works; but let us tell you most solemnly that you will never be saved without works.

T. L. Cuyler

World

All the world over, I will back the masses against the classes.

William Ewart Gladstone (1809-1898)

Speech, Liverpool, June 28, 1886

World

For I dipt into the future, far as human eye could see,

Saw the Vision of the world, and all the wonder that would be;

Saw the heavens fill with commerce, argosies of magic sails,

Pilots of the purple twilight, dropping down with costly bales;

Heard the heavens fill with shouting, and there rain'd a ghastly dew

From the nations' airy navies grappling in the central blue;

Far along the world-wide whisper of the south-wind rushing warm,

With the standards of the peoples plunging thro' the thunder-storm;

Till the war-drums throbb'd, no longer, and the battle-flags were furl'd

In the Parliament of man, the Federation of the world.

There the common sense of most shall hold a fretful realm in awe,

And the kindly earth shall slumber, lapt in universal law.

Alfred, Lord Tennyson, "Locksley Hall," verses 60-65, The Poetical Works of Alfred, Lord Tennyson, p. 111 (1897).

World

For the world, I count it not an inn, but an hospital; and a place not to live, but to die in.

Sir Thomas Browne

Religio Medici, II, 11

World

Give me matter, and I will construct a world out of it!

Immanuel Kant, "Universal Natural History and Theory of the Heavens," Preface, Kant's Cosmogony, trans. W. Hastie, p. 29 (1900).

World

Half the world knows not how the other half lives.

George Herbert

Jacula Prudentum, 907

World

Physicists and astronomers see their own implications in the world being round, but to me it means that only one-third of the world is asleep at any given time and the other two-thirds is up to something.

Dean Rusk, secretary of state, speech to the American Bar Association, Atlanta, Georgia, October 22, 1964, as reported by The Atlanta Constitution, October 23, 1964, p. 10.

World

The atoms are in continual motion through all eternity.

Moreover, there is an infinite number of worlds, some like this world, others unlike it. For the atoms being infinite in number, as has just been proved, are borne ever further in their course…. Hence there will be nothing to hinder an infinity of worlds.

Epicurus (341-270 B.C.)

Letter to Herodotus, Quoted by Diogenes Laërtius

World

The world in all doth but two nations bear—

The good, the bad; and these mixed everywhere.

Andrew Marvell

The Loyal Scot

World

The world is grown so bad,

That wrens make prey where eagles dare not perch.

William Shakespeare

King Richard III, I, iii, 70

World

The world is large, when its weary leagues two loving hearts divide; But the world is small, when your enemy is loose on the other side.

John Boyle O'Reilly, "Distance," Watchwords from John Boyle O'Beilly, ed. Katherine E. Conway, p. 16 (1892).These lines were quoted by Senator John F. Kennedy in a speech at the Al Smith Memorial Dinner in New York City, October 19, 1960, and, as president, to the Irish Parliament, Dublin, Ireland, June 28, 1963.

World

The world of the future will not flourish behind walls—no matter who builds them and no matter what their purpose. A world divided economically must inevitably be a world divided politically. As Secretary of State, I cannot contemplate that prospect with anything but deep disquiet.

William P. Rogers, secretary of state, address before the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, Washington, D.C., May 1, 1972.—The Washington Post, May 22, 1972, p. A20.

World

Vien dietro a me, e lascia dir le genti.

Come follow me and let the world babble.

Dante (or Durante) Alighieri (1265-1321)

Purgatorio, Canto V

World

We have it in our power to begin the world over again.

Thomas Paine, "Common Sense," conclusion, The Complete Writings of Thomas Paine, ed. Philip S. Foner, vol. 1, p. 45 (1945). Originally published in 1776.

President Ronald Reagan quoted these words in a televised presidential campaign debate with Walter F. Mondale, October 7, 1984.

World Domination

For whosoever commands the sea commands the trade; whosoever commands the

trade of the world commands the riches of the world, and consequently the world itself.

Sir Walter Raleigh, "A Discourse of the Invention of Ships, Anchors, Compass, &c.," The Works of Sir Walter Balegh, Kt., vol. 8, p. 325 (1829, reprinted 1965).

World Domination

Nothing has changed in Russia's policy…. Her methods, her tactics, her maneuvers may change, but the pole star—world domination—is immutable.

Karl Marx, speech delivered in London, January 22, 1867.—On the First International (vol. 3 of The Karl Marx Library), ed. and trans. Saul K. Padover, p. 84 (1972).

World Domination

Red China and Russia are having their differences. But we cannot take too much comfort in the fact that what they are debating about is not how to beat each other but how to beat us. They are simply arguing about what kind of a shovel they should use to dig the grave of the United States.

Richard M. Nixon, speech to the American Society of Newspaper Editors, Washington, D.C., April 20, 1963.—"American Policy Abroad," Vital Speeches of the Day, June 1, 1963, p. 487.

World Domination

Since World War II, U.S. imperialism has stepped into the shoes of German, Japanese, and Italian fascism and has been trying to build a great American empire by dominating and enslaving the whole world. It is actively fostering Japanese and West German militarism as its chief accomplices in unleashing a world war. Like a vicious wolf, it is bullying and enslaving various peoples, plundering their wealth, encroaching upon their countries' sovereignty, and interfering in their internal affairs. It is the most rabid aggressor in human history and the most ferocious common enemy of the people of the world.

Lin Piao, minister of defense, People's Republic of China. Toxt released September 2, 1965.—Samuel B. Griffith, Peking and People's Wars, p. 99 (1966).

World Domination

The United States, delighting in her resources, feeling that she no longer had within herself sufficient scope for her energies, wishing to help those who were in misery or bondage the world over, yielded in her turn to that taste for intervention in which the instinct for domination cloaked itself.

Charles de Gaulle, The War Memoirs of Charles de Gaulle, trans. Richard Howard, vol. 2, p. 88 (1959).

World Domination

There are now two great nations in the world which, starting from different points, seem to be advancing toward the same goal: the Russians and the Anglo-Americans. Both have grown in obscurity, and while the world's attention was occupied elsewhere, they have suddenly taken their place among the leading nations, making the world take note of their birth and of their greatness almost at the same instant. All other peoples seem to have nearly reached their natural limits and to need nothing but to preserve them; but these two are growing…. The American fights against natural obstacles; the Russian is at grips with men. The former combats the wilderness and barbarism; the latter, civilization with all its arms. America's conquests are made with the plowshare, Russia's with the sword. To attain their aims, the former relies on personal interest and gives free scope to the unguided strength and common sense of individuals. The latter in a sense concentrates the whole power of society in one man. One has freedom as the principal means of action; the other has servitude. Their point of departure is different and their paths diverse; nevertheless, each seems called by some secret desire of Providence one day to hold in its hands the destinies of half the world.

Alexis de Tocqueville, Democracy in America, ed. J. P Mayer, trans. George Lawrence, vol. I, part 2, Conclusion, final paragraphs, pp. 412-13 (1969). Originally published in 1835-1840.

World Domination

When our Statesmen are in conversation with the defeated enemy, some airy cherub should whisper to them from time to time this saying:

Who rules East Europe commands the Heartland:

Who rules the Heartland commands the World-Island:

Who rules the World-Island commands the World.

Sir Halpord John Mackinder,

Democratic Ideals and Beality: A Study in the

Politics of Beconstrnction, p. 186 (1919).

World War I

If you hadn't entered the World War we would have made peace with Germany early in 1917. Had we made peace then there would have been no collapse in Russia followed by communism, no break-down in Italy followed by fascism, and Germany would not have signed the Versailles Treaty, which has enthroned naziism in Germany. In other words, if America had stayed out of the war all of these "isms" wouldn't today be sweeping the Continent of Europe and breaking down parliamentary government, and if England had made peace early in 1917, it would have saved over 1,000,000 British, French, American, and other lives.

Attributed to Winston Churchill, but denied by him.—William Griffin, sworn statement, September 8, 1939, reprinted in the Congressional Becord, October 21, 1939, vol. 84, p. 686.Griffin, publisher of the New York Enyuirer said the conversation had taken place in London during August 1936. Griffin brought a $1,000,000 libel suit against Churchill in October 1939, but the charges were dismissed on October 21, 1942, when Griffin or his lawyers failed to appear when the case was called. At that time Griffin was under indictment in Washington, D.C., on charges of conspiring to lower the morale of the armed forces of this country.

In his answer to the suit, Churchill admitted the 1936 interview, but denied the statement.—The New York Times, October 22, 1942, p. 13. The proceedings against Griffin were later quashed after a hearing in federal court on January 26, 1944.

World War I

In Flanders fields the poppies blow

Between the crosses, row on row,

That mark our place; and in the sky

The larks, still bravely singing, fly

Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short day ago

We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,

Loved and were loved, and now we lie,

In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:

To you from failing hands we throw

The torch; be yours to hold it high.

If ye break faith with us who die

We shall not sleep, though poppies grow

In Flanders fields.

John Mccrae, "In Flanders Fields," In Flanders Fields and Other Poems, p. 3 (1919).

World War I

It is a fearful thing to lead this great peaceful people into war, into the most terrible and disastrous of all wars, civilization itself seeming to be in the balance. But the right is more precious than peace, and we shall fight for the things which we have always carried nearest our hearts, for democracy, for the right of those who submit to authority to have a voice in their own governments, for the rights and liberties of small nations, for a universal dominion of right by such a concert of free peoples as shall bring peace and safety to all nations and make the world itself at last free. To such a task we can dedicate our lives and our fortunes, everything that we are and everything that we have, with the pride of those who know that the day has come when America is privileged to spend her blood and her might for the principles that gave her birth and happiness and the peace which she has treasured. God helping her, she can do no other.

President Woodrow Wilson, address to a joint session of Congress recommending that Germany's course be declared war against the United States, April 2, 1917.—The Messages and Papers of Woodrow Wilson, ed. Albert Shaw, vol. 1, pp. 382-83 (1924).

World War I

Nothing will bring American sympathy along with us so much as American blood shed in the field.

Winston Churchill, first lord of the Admiralty, memorandum to Prime Minister Sir Edward Grey and Lord Kitchener, September 5, 1914.—Winston S. Churchill, The World Crisis, 1911-1914, 2d ed., vol. 1, p. 272 (1923).

World War II

Bataan is like a child in a family who dies. It lives in our hearts.

General Douglas Macarthur, reflection on the first anniversary of the fall of Bataan, April 9, 1942, as reported by The New York Times, April 9, 1943, p. 9, which added, "It was the first time General MacArthur had mentioned the name Bataan publicly" since the day after the fall.

World War II

Give us the tools, and we will finish the job.

Prime Minister Winston Churchill, radio broadcast, London, February 9, 1941.—Winston S. Churchill: His Complete Speeches, 1897-1963, ed. Robert Rhodes James, vol. 6, p. 6350 (1974).

World War II

How horrible, fantastic, incredible it is that we should be digging trenches and trying on gas masks here because of a quarrel in a far-away country between people of whom we know nothing. It seems still more impossible that a quarrel which has already been settled in principle should be the subject of war.

Neville Chamberlain, national broadcast, London, September 27, 1938.—Chamberlain, In Search of Peace, p. 174 (1939). He was prime minister at the time.

World War II

I fear all we have done is to awaken a sleeping giant and fill him with a terrible resolve.

Attributed to Isoroku Yamamoto, a Japanese admiral in World War 11, in the motion picture Tora, Tora, Tora.—Twentieth Century Fox, Tora, Tora, Tora; Dialogue and Cutting Continuity, reel 18, p. 16 (1970). The screenplay was written by Gordon W. Prange, based on his unpublished material, and by Ladislas Farago, who had published his The Broken Seal in 1967. The sentence is not in Farago's book, nor did it appear later in Prange's book, At Dawn We Slept, published posthumously in 1981.

No evidence exists that these words were Yamamoto's. However, in a letter to Ogata Toketora, dated January 9, 1942, Yamamoto wrote, "A military man can scarcely pride himself on having 'smitten a sleeping enemy'; in fact, to have it pointed out is more a matter of shame. "—Hirosuki Asawa, The Reluctant Admiral, trans. John Bester, p. 285 (1979).

World War II

I shall return.

General Douglas Macarthur. After leaving the Philippines March 12, 1942, he later arrived in Australia. When he was pressed by reporters, General MacArthur issued the following statement: "The President of the United States ordered me to break through the Japanese lines and proceed from Corregidor to Australia for the purpose, as I understand it, of organizing the American offensive against Japan, a primary object of which is the relief of the Philippines. I came through and I shall return."—Bepresentative Speeches of General of the Army Douglas MacArthur, p. vi (1964). Senate Doc. 88-95.See also his Beminiscences, p. 145 (1964).

World War II

In time of this grave national danger, when all excess income should go to win the war, no American citizen ought to have a net income, after he has paid his taxes, of more than $25,000 a year.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt, message to Congress, April 27, 1942.—The Public Papers and Addresses of Franklin D. Boosevelt, 1942, p. 221 (1950).

World War II

No army has ever done so much with so little.

General Douglas Macarthur, as reported by The New York Times, April 11, 1942, p. I. He referred to the fall of Bataan.

World War II

Once Japan is destroyed as an aggressive force, we know of no other challenging power that can appear in the Pacific…. Japan is the one enemy, and the only enemy, of the peaceful peoples whose shores overlook the Pacific Ocean.

Joseph C. Grew, address for United China Relief, Carnegie Hall, New York City, October 10, 1942.—The Department of State Bulletin, October 10, 1942, p. 798. Grew was the U.S. ambassador to Japan, 1932-1941.

World War II

Our spirit of enjoyment was stronger than our spirit of sacrifice. We wanted to have more than we wanted to give. We tried to spare effort, and met disaster.

Marshal Henri Petain.—Attributed to him in a caption, which said, "Frenchmen heard Marshal Petain pronounce this requiem over a lost France." The caption accompanies an article, "Danger: Men Not at Work!" by Hatton W. Summers, Nation's Business, May 1941, p. 15.

World War II

People of the Philippines: I have returned. By the grace of Almighty God, our forces stand again on Philippine soil…. The hour of your redemption is here…. Rally to me…. As the lines of battle roll forward to bring you within the zone of operations, rise and strike. Strike at every favorable opportunity. For your homes and hearths, strike! For future generations of your sons and daughters, strike! In the name of your sacred dead, strike! Let no heart be faint. Let every arm be steeled. The guidance of Divine God points the way. Follow in His name to the Holy Grail of righteous victory.

General Douglas Macarthur, speech to the people of the Philippines, on Leyte, October 17, 1944.—MacArthur, Beminiscences, pp. 216-17 (1964).

World War II

The frontier of America is on the Rhine.

Attributed to President Franklin D. Roosevelt, by a member or members of the Senate Committee on Military Affairs, meeting in executive session at the White House, January 31, 1939.—Whitney H. Shepardson and William O. Scroggs, The United States in World Affairs, p. 104 (1940). Reports of this remark caused an outcry by American isolationists and in the German press, while they gave courage to the British and French. Roosevelt vehemently denied the remark, calling it a "deliberate lie" at his press conference on February 3.—The Public Papers and Addresses of Franklin D. Boosevelt, 1939, p. 113 (1941).

Representative John A. Martin referred to this in remarks in the House during a discussion of building military airplanes: "A controversy has been raging over an alleged private remark of the President that the frontier of America is on the Rhine. Whether he said it or not, the frontier of America has been on the Rhine, and beyond. An American Army has trod the soil of Germany. The American frontier has been on the coasts of Europe, of Africa, and of Asia, when those coasts were vastly more distant from ours than they are today."—Congressional Becord, February 14, 1939, vol. 84, p. 1394.

World War II

The gratitude of every home in our Island, in our Empire, and indeed throughout the world, except in the abodes of the guilty, goes out to the British airmen who, undaunted by odds, unwearied in their constant challenge and mortal danger, are turning the tide of the World War by their prowess and by their devotion. Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few.

Prime Minister Winston Churchill, speech during the Battle of Britain, House of Commons, August 20, 1940.—Winston S. Churchill: His Complete Speeches, 1897-1963, ed. Robert Rhodes James, vol. 6, p. 6266 (1974).

World War II

The time has come when we must proceed with the business of carrying the war to the enemy, not permitting the greater portion of our armed forces and our valuable material to be immobilized within the continental United States.

General George C. Marshall, Army chief of staff, as reported by the Washington, D.C., Times-Herald, March 3, 1942, p. 1.

World War II

There are two kinds of mines; one is the personnel mine and the other is the vehicular mine. When we come to a mine field our infantry attacks exactly as if it were not there. The losses we get from personnel mines we consider only equal to those we would have gotten from machine guns and artillery if the Germans had chosen to defend that particular area with strong bodies of troops instead of with mine fields. The attacking infantry does not set off the vehicular mines, so after they have penetrated to the far side of the field they form a bridgehead, after which the engineers come up and dig out channels through which our vehicles can go.

Georgy K. Zhukov.—Dwight D. Eisenhower attributes this statement to the Russian marshal in Crnsade in Europe, pp. 467-68 (1948), and adds, "I had a vivid picture of what would happen to any American or British commander if he pursued such tactics, and I had an even more vivid picture of what the men in any one of our divisions would have had to say about the matter had we attempted to make such a practice a part of our tactical doctrine. Americans assess the cost of war in terms of human lives, the Russians in the over-all drain on the nation."

World War II

There is a hush over all Europe, nay, over all the world…. Alas! it is the hush of suspense, and in many lands it is the hush of fear. Listen! No, listen carefully, I think I hear something—yes, there it was quite clear. Don't you hear it? It is the tramp of armies crunching the gravel of the paradegrounds, splashing through rain-soaked fields, the tramp of two million German soldiers and more than a million Italians—going on maneuvers—yes, only on maneuvers!

Winston Churchill, "A Hush over Europe," broadcast to the United States from London, August 8, 1939.—Winston S. Churchill: His Complete Speeches, 1897-1963, ed. Robert Rhodes James, vol. 6, p. 6150 (1974).

World War II

There is no doubt that the absence of a second front in Europe considerably relieves the position of the German Army, nor can there be any doubt that the appearance of a second front on the Continent of Europe—and undoubtedly this will appear in the near future—will essentially relieve the position of our armies to the detriment of the German Army.

Joseph Stalin, radio address from Moscow, November 6, 1941.—Vital Speeches of the Day, December 1, 1941, p. 102.

World War II

Thus, by every device from the stick to the carrot, the emaciated Austrian donkey is made to pull the Nazi barrow up an ever-steepening hill.

Winston Churchill, "The Rape of Austria," letter, July 6, 1938.—Churchill, Step by Step, 1936-1939, p. 262 (1939).This volume is a compilation of the fortnightly letters he wrote from 1936-1939, mainly on foreign policy and defense.

World War II

What General Weygand called the Battle of France is over. I expect that the Battle of Britain is about to begin. Upon this battle depends the survival of Christian civilization. Upon it depends our own British life, and the long continuity of our institutions and our Empire. The whole fury and might of the enemy must very soon be turned on us. Hitler knows that he will have to break us in this Island or lose the war. If we can stand up to him, all Europe may be free and the life of the world may move forward into broad, sunlit uplands. But if we fail, then the whole world, including the United States, including all that we have known and cared for, will sink into the abyss of a new Dark Age made more sinister, and perhaps more protracted, by the lights of perverted science. Let us therefore brace ourselves to our duties, and so bear ourselves that, if the British Empire and its Commonwealth last for a thousand years, men will still say, "This was their finest hour."

Prime Minister Winston Churchill, speech, House of Commons, June 18, 1940.—Winston S. Churchill: His Complete Speeches, 1897-1963, ed. Robert Rhodes James, vol. 6, p. 6238 (1974).

World War II

What place does the possibility of a second front occupy in the Soviet estimates of the current situation? A most important place; one might say a place of first-rate importance.

Joseph Stalin, letter to Henry C. Cassidy, representative of The Associated Press in Moscow, October 4, 1942.—The New York Times, October 5, 1942, p. 1.

World War II

When I warned them [the French] that Britain would fight on alone whatever they did, their generals told their Prime Minister and his divided Cabinet, "In three weeks England will have her neck wrung like a chicken." Some chicken! Some neck!

Prime Minister Winston Churchill, speech to a joint session of the Canadian Parliament, Ottawa, Canada, December 30, 1941.—Winston S. Churchill: His Complete Speeches, 1897-1963, ed. Robert Rhodes James, vol. 6, p. 6544 (1974).

World War II

Yesterday, December 7, 1941—a date which will live in infamy—the United States of America was suddenly and deliberately attacked by naval and air forces of the Empire of Japan.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt, address to a joint session of Congress asking that a state of war be declared between the United States and Japan, December 8, 1941.—The Public Papers and Addresses of Franklin D. Boosevelt, 1941, p. 514 (1950).

World/World Government

All wars are civil wars, because all men are brothers….Each one owes infinitely more to the human race than to the particular country in which he was born.

Francis Fenelon

World/World Government

We are all apt to believe what the world believes about us.

George Eliot

Worrying

To fret thy soul with crosses and with cares;

To eat thy heart through comfortless despairs;

To fawn, to crouch, to wait, to ride, to run,

To spend, to give, to want, to be undone.

Unhappy wight, born to disastrous end,

That doth his life in so long tendance spend.

Edmund Spenser

Mother Hubberds Tale, l. 903

Worrying

As a cure for worrying, work is better than whiskey.

Thomas A. Edison

Worrying

Finish each day, and be done with it. You have done what you could. Some blunders and absurdities no doubt crept in; forget them as soon as you can. Tomorrow is a new day; begin it well and serenely, and with too high a spirit to been cumbered with your old nonsense.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Worrying

It ain't no use putting up your umbrella till it rains.

Alice Hegan Rice

Worrying

Let us be of good cheer, however, remembering that the misfortunes hardest to bear are those which never come.

James Russell Lowell

Worrying

No man ever sank under the burden of the day. It is the when tomorrow's burden is added to the burden of today that the weight is more than a man can bear. Never load yourselves so. If you find yourselves so loaded, at least remember this: It is your doing, not God's. He begs you to leave the future to Him, and mind the present.

George McDonald

Worrying

Some people bear three kinds of trouble—the ones they've had, the ones they have, and the ones they expect to have.

Everett Hale

Worrying

When we have nothing to worry about we are not doing much, and not doing much may supply us with plenty of future worries.

Chinese proverb

Worrying

Worry is interest paid on trouble before it is due.

William Inge

Worship

It is only when a man begins to worship that a man begins to grow.

Calvin Coolidge

Worship

When you go to Church, you should actively seek something. You must not go like an empty bucket, waiting passively to be filled.

Kiis

Worth

A man of straw is worth more than a woman of gold.

John (Giovanni) Florio (1553?-1625)

Second Frutes (1591)

Worth

Anything worth doing is worth 10%.

Konosuke Matsushita.—Business Week, August 21, 1965, p. 80, says this is the highly successful Japanese businessman's "expressed philosophy."

Worth

But how many ships do you reckon my presence to be worth?

Antigonus

From Plutarch, Apothegms, Antigonus

Worth

Each of us aspires to worth,

Each of us desires it

And desires it for himself.

Theodore Agrippa d'Aubigne

Pieces Epigrammatiques 49

Worth

Earth gets its price for what Earth gives us;

The beggar is taxed for a corner to die in,

The priest hath his fee who comes and shrives us,

We bargain for the graves we lie in;

At the Devil's booth are all things sold,

Each ounce of dross costs its ounce of gold;

For a cap and bells our lives we pay,

Bubbles we buy with a whole soul's tasking:

'T is heaven alone that is given away,

'T is only God may be had for the asking;

No price is set on the lavish summer;

June may be had by the poorest comer.

And what is so rare as a day in June?

Then, if ever, come perfect days;

Then Heaven tries the earth if it be in tune,

And over it softly her warm ear lays:

Whether we look, or whether we listen,

We hear life murmur, or see it glisten.

James Russell Lowell, "The Vision of Sir Launfal," prelude to part 1, lines 21-38, The Vision of Sir Lounfal and Other Poems, p. 4-5 (1887).

Worth

Everything is worth what its purchaser will pay for it.

Publilius Syrus

Maxim 847

Worth

Then let us pray that come it may,

As come it will for a' that,

That sense and worth, o'er a' the earth,

May bear the gree and a' that.

For a' that, and a' that,

It's comin' yet, for a' that,

When man to man, the world o'er,

Shall brithers be for a' that.

Robert Burns

Is There for Honest Poverty, 1795.

Worth

Were his lord but worthy, God, how fine a vassal.

Poem of the Cid

Line 20

Worth

When I was a child of seven years old, my friends, on a holiday, filled my pocket with coppers. I went directly to a shop where they sold toys for children; and, being charmed with the sound of a whistle, that I met by the way in the hands of another boy, I voluntarily offered and gave all my money for one. I then came home, and went whistling all over the house, much pleased with my whistle, but disturbing all the family. My brothers, and sisters, and cousins, understanding the bargain I had made, told me I had given four times as much for it as it was worth; put me in mind what good things I might have bought with the rest of the money; and laughed at me so much for my folly, that I cried with vexation; and the reflection gave me more chagrin than the whistle gave me pleasure. This however was afterwards of use to me, the impression continuing on my mind; so that often, when I was tempted to buy some unnecessary thing, I said to myself, Don't give too much for the whistle; and I saved my money.

Benjamin Franklin, letter to Madame Brillon, November 10, 1779.—The Works of Benjamin Franklin, ed. Jared Sparks, vol. 2, p. 181 (1836).

Worth

You are not worth the dust which the rude wind

Blows in your face.

William Shakespeare

King Lear, IV, ii, 30

Writers/Writing

"I write this in prison, expecting tomorrow to recieve sentence of death, full of hope in God that I shall not swerve from the truth." Urged to recant at the stake—"In the truth of that gospel which hitherto I have written, taught and preached, I now joyfully die." "Kyrie Eleison."

John Huss

Encyclopedia Brittanica

Writers/Writing

A litterateur is not a confectioner, not a dealer in cosmetics, not an entertainer…. He is just like an ordinary reporter. What would you say if a newspaper reporter, because of his fastidiousness or from a wish to give pleasure to his readers, were to describe only honest mayors, high-minded ladies, and virtuous railroad contractors.

Anton Chekhov

The Personal Papers of Anton Chekhov, Lear, 1950.

Writers/Writing

Against the disease of writing one must take special precautions, since it is a dangerous and contagious disease.

Peter Abelard

Letter 8, Abelard to Heloise

Writers/Writing

An inveterate and incurable itch for writing besets many, and grows old in their sick hearts.

Decimus Junius Juvenal

Satires, VII, 51

Writers/Writing

Another iron door, on which was writ,

Be not too bold.

Edmund Spenser

The Faerie Queene, III, 11, 54

Writers/Writing

By God, if women had but written stories,

As have these clerks within their oratories,

They would have written of men more wickedness

Than all the race of Adam could redress.

Geoffrey Chaucer, Canterbury Tales: Wife of Bath's Prologue

Writers/Writing

Had not almost every man suffered by the Press, or were not the tyranny thereof become universal, I had not wanted reason for complaint.

Thomas Browne

Religio Medici, 1642, preface.

Writers/Writing

He was the author, our hand finished it.

Phaedrus

Fables, I, 6, 20

Writers/Writing

Here halt, I pray you, make a little stay.

O wayfarer, to read what I have writ,

And know by my fate what thy fate shall be.

What thou art now, so shall thou be.

The world's delight I followed with a heart

Unsatisfied: ashes am I, and dust.

Alcuin

His Own Epitaph

Writers/Writing

I am more or less familiar with the works of the members of this Institute. I have worked in the same field. I have felt that quick comradeship of letters which is a very real comradeship, because it is a comradeship of thought and of principle.

Woodrow Wilson, "That Quick Comradeship of Letters," address at the Institute of France, Paris, France, May 10, 1919.—The Public Papers of Woodrow Wilson, ed. Ray Stannard Baker and William E. Dodd, vol. 5, p. 482 (1927).

Writers/Writing

If I let my fingers wander idly over the keys of a typewriter it might happen that my screed made an intelligible sentence. If an army of monkeys were strumming on typewriters they might write all the books in the British Museum.

Arthur S. Eddington, The Nature of the Physical World, chapter 4, p. 72 (1928). Eddington calls this "a rather classical illustration" of chance. A discussion of this concept is in William Ralph Bennett, Scientifc and Engineering Problem-solving with the Computer, chapter 4, p. 105 (1976).A similar quotation was attributed, apparently incorrectly, to [Thomas Henry?] Huxley by Sir James Jeans, The Mysterious Universe, p. 4 (1931).

Writers/Writing

If there is ever an amelioration of the condition of mankind, philosophers, theologians, legislators, politicians and moralists will find that the regulation of the press is the most difficult, dangerous and important problem they have to resolve. Mankind cannot now be governed without it, nor at present with it.

John Adams

Letter to James Lord, February 11, 1815.

Writers/Writing

If you steal from one author, it's plagiarism. If you steal from two, it's research.

Wilson Mizner.—John Burke (Richard O'Connor), Bogue's Progress: The Fabulous Adventures of Wilson Mizner chapter 9, p. 167 (1975).

Writers/Writing

Journalism has already come to be the first power in the land.

Samuel Bowles

Writers/Writing

Originality is nothing but judicious imitation. The most original writers borrowed one from another. The instruction we find in books is like fire. We fetch it from our neighbor's, kindle it at home, communicate it to others, and it becomes the property of all.

Attributed to Voltaire (Francois Marie Arouet).—Tryon Edwards, Dictionary of Thoughts, p. 392 (1891). Unverified.

Writers/Writing

Fine writers should split hairs together, and sit side by side, like friendly apes, to pick the fleas from each other's fur.

Logan Pearsall Smith, "Afterthoughts," All Trivia: Trivia, More Trivia, Ajler thoughts, Last Words, p. 150 (1933).

Writers/Writing

That historians should give their own country a break, I grant you; but not so as to state things contrary to fact. For there are plenty of mistakes made by writers out of ignorance, and which any man finds it difficult to avoid. But if we knowingly write what is false, whether for the sake of our country or our friends or just to be pleasant, what difference is there between us and hack-writers? Readers should be very attentive to and critical of historians, and they in turn should be constantly on their guard.

Polybius

History, XVI

Writers/Writing

The imaginative artist willy-nilly influences his time. If he understands his responsibility and acts on it—taking the art seriously always, himself never quite—he can make a contribution equal to, if different from, that of the scientist, the politician, and the jurist. The anarchic artist so much in vogue now—asserting with vehemence and violence that he writes only for himself, grubbing in the worst seams of life—can do damage. But he can also be so useful in breaking up obsolete molds, exposing shams, and crying out the truth, that the broadest freedom of art seems to me necessary to a country worth living in.

Herman Wouk.—Kirk Polking. "An Exclusive Interview with Herman Wouk," Writer's Digest, September 1966, p. 50.

Writers/Writing

The Moving Finger writes; and, having writ,

Moves on: nor all your Piety nor Wit

Shall lure it back to cancel half a Line,

Nor all your Tears wash out a Word of it.

Edward Fitzgerald (1809-1883)

The Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam (anonymously published 1859, revised and expanded, 1868), LXXI.

Writers/Writing

The original style is not the style which never borrows of any one, but that which no other person is capable of reproducing.

(Le crivain original n'est pas celui qui n'imite personne, mais celui que personne ne peut imiter.)

Francois Rene de Chateaubriand, The Genius of Christianity (Genie du Christianisme), trans. Charles 1. White, part 2, book 1, chapter 3, p. 221 (1856, reprinted 1976). This sentence has also been translated as: "The original writer is not he who refrains from imitating others, but he who can be imitated by none."—The Oxford Dictionary of Quotations, 3d ed., p. 141 (1979).

Writers/Writing

The present letter is a very long one, simply because I had no leisure to make it shorter.

Blaise Pascal, Pensees, The Provincial Letters, provincial letter 16, p. 571 (1941).

Writers/Writing

The time has come for writers, especially those who are artists, to admit that in this world one cannot make anything out, just as Socrates once admitted it, just as Voltaire admitted it.

Anton Chekhov

The Personal Papers of Anton Chekhov, Lear, 1950.

Writers/Writing

There is nothing to write about, you say. Well then, write and let me know just this—that there is nothing to write about; or tell me in the good old style if you are well. That's right. I am quite well.

Pliny the Younger

Letters, I, 11

Writers/Writing

To a chemist nothing on earth is unclean. A writer must be as objective as a chemist; he must abandon the subjective line; he must know that dung-heaps play a very respectable part in a landscape, and that evil passions are as inherent in life as good ones.

Anton Chekhov

The Personal Papers of Anton Chekhov, Lear, 1950.

Writers/Writing

What Malherbe writes will endure forever.

Francois de Malherbe

Sonnet a Louis XIII

Writers/Writing

When that passage was written only God and Robert Browning understood it. Now only God understands it.

Rudolf Besier, The Barretts of Wimpole Street, act II, p. 66 (1932). Robert Browning is speaking.

Writers/Writing

You complain, friend Swift, of the length of my epigrams, but you yourself write nothing. Yours are shorter.

Martial [Marcus Valerius Martialis]

Epigrams, I, 110

Writers/Writing

The players have often mentioned it as an honor to Shakespeare that in his writing (whatsoever he penned) he never blotted out a line. My answer hath been, "Would he had blotted a thousand."

Ben Jonson

Timber; or, Discoveries Made Upon Men and Matter

Writers/Writing

Trifles light as air

Are to the jealous confirmations strong

As proofs of holy writ.

William Shakespeare

Othello, III, iii, 323

Writers/Writing

Anything that is written to please the author is worthless.

Blaise Pascal

Writers/Writing

Good writing is a kind of skating which carries off the performer where he would not go.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Writers/Writing

He was one of these men who think that the world can be saved by writing a pamphlet.

Benjamin Disraeli

Writers/Writing

I never desire to converse with a man who has written more than he has read.

Samuel Johnson

Writers/Writing

I put a piece of paper under my pillow, and when I could not sleep I wrote in the dark.

Henry David Thoreau

Writers/Writing

In composing, as a general rule, run your pen through every other word you have written; you have no idea what vigor it will give your style.

Sydney Smith

Writers/Writing

Literature is an occupation in which you have to keep proving your talent to people who have none.

Jules Renard

Writers/Writing

Read over your compositions and, when you meet a passage which you think is particularly fine, strike it out.

Samuel Johnson

Writers/Writing

Sir, no man but a blockhead ever wrote except for money.

Samuel Johnson

Writers/Writing

The only sensible ends of literature are, first, the pleasurable toil of writing; second, the gratification of one's family and friends; and lastly, the solid cash.

Nathaniel Hawthorne

Writers/Writing

They lard their lean books with the fat of others' works

Robert Burton

Anatomy of Melancholy. Democritus to the Reader

Writers/Writing

Unprovided with original learning, unformed in the habits of thinking, unskilled in the arts of composition, I resolved to write a book.

Edward Gibbon

Writers/Writing

Whenever I apply myself to writing, literature comes between us.

Jules Renard

Writers/Writing

Your manuscript is both good and original; but the part that is good is not original, and the part that is original is not good.

Samuel Johnson

Yesmanship

Antidotes to Yesmanship:

"Choose results over appearances, independence over obedience, the opinionated over the docile, one-sidedness over non-sidedness."

Author Unknown

Yesmanship

I don't want any yesmen around me. I want people who tell me the truth even though it costs them their jobs.

Samuel Goldwyn

Past, Present, Future

Often do the spirits of great events stride on before the events

And in today already walks tomorrow.

Samuel Taylor Coleridge

Youth

A boy's will is the wind's will,

And the thoughts of youth are long, long thoughts.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Youth

A conservative young man has wound up his life before it was unreeled. We expect old men to be conservative but when a nation's young men are so, its funeral bell is already rung.

Henry Ward Beecher

Youth

A youth, when at home, should be filial, and, abroad, respectful to his elders.

Confucius

Youth

As I approve of a youth that has something of the old man in him, so I am no less pleased with an old man that has something of the youth. He that follows this rule may be old in body, but can never be so in mind.

Cicero

Youth

Be practical as well as generous in your ideals. Keep your eyes on the stars and keep your feet on the ground.

Theodore Roosevelt

Youth

Being young is a fault which improves daily.

Swedish Proverb

Youth

Bright youth passes swiftly as a thought.

Theognis

Youth

Character, in the long run, is the decisive factor in the life of an individual and of nations alike.

Theodore Roosevelt

Youth

Courage, hard work, self-mastery, and intelligent effort are all essential to successful life.

Theodore Roosevelt

Youth

Down the broad way do I go,

Young and unregretting,

Wrap me in my vices up,

Virtue all forgetting,

Greedier for all delight

Than heaven to enter in:

Since the soul in me is dead,

Better save the skin.

Archpoet

Estuans Intrinsecus

Youth

Full of wiles, full of guile, at all times, in all ways,

Are the children of Men.

Aristophanes

Birds, 451

Youth

Gaudeamus igitur,

Iuvenes dum sumus.

Let us live then and be glad

While young life is before us.

Anonymous Latin Students' song

Youth

Good speed to your youthful valor, boy! So shall you scale the stars!

Virgil [Publius Virgilius Maro]

Aeneid, IX, 641

Youth

I came to the place of my birth, and cried, "The friends of my youth, where are they?" And echo answered, "Where are they?"

Arab saying

Youth

I pray for no more youth

To perish before its prime;

That Revenge and iron-heated War

May fade with all that has gone before

Into the night of time.

Aeschylus.—John Lewin, The House of Atreus, p. 110 (1966). This modern version is an adaptation of the Oresteia; the lines above are from Eumenides (The Furies).Senator Edward Kennedy quoted this passage in testimony before the Commission on Campus Unrest, July 15, 1970.—Cougressional Becord, vol. 116, p. 24309.

Youth

I want to see you game, boys, I want to see you brave and manly, and I also want to see you gentle and tender.

Theodore Roosevelt

Youth

I would not have borne this in my hot youth when Plancus was consul.

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Odes, III, xiv, 27

Youth

I'm youth, I'm joy, I'm a little bird that has broken out of the egg.

Sir James M. Barrie, Peter Pan, act V scene i, p. 143 (1928). Peter Pan is speaking.

Youth

Into my heart an air that kills

From yon far country blows:

What are those blue remembered hills,

What spires, what farms are those?

That is the land of lost content,

I see it shining plain,

The happy highways where I went

And cannot come again.

A. E. Houseman, "Into my heart an air that kills' A Shropshire Lad, verse 40, p. 72 (1932).

Youth

It is very natural for young men to be vehement, acrimonious and severe. For as they seldom comprehend at once all the consequences of a position, or perceive the difficulties by which cooler and more experienced reasoners are restrained from confldence, they form their conclusions with great precipitance. Seeing nothing that can darken or embarrass the question, they expect to find their own opinion universally prevalent, and are inclined to impute uncertainty and hesitation to want of honesty, rather than of knowledge.

Samuel Johnson, The Rambler no. 121, May 14, 1751.—The Bambler; A Periodical Paper Published 1750, 1751, 1752, p. 210 (1825).

Youth

New brooms sweep well.

Freidank

Saying

Youth

Nothing matters more to the future of this Nation than insuring that our young men and women learn to believe in themselves and believe in their dreams, and that they develop this capacity—that you develop this capacity, so that you keep it all of your lives…. I believe one of America's most priceless assets is the idealism which motivates the young people of America. My generation has invested all that it has, not only its love but its hope and faith, in yours.

President Richard M. Nixon, remarks at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska, January 14, 1971.—Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Richard Nixon, 1971, pp. 31, 33.

Youth

Of all the animals, the boy is the most unmanageable, inasmuch as he has the fountain of reason in him not yet regulated.

Plato

Youth

Our answer is the world's hope; it is to rely on youth. The cruelties and obstacles of this swiftly changing planet will not yield to obsolete dogmas and outworn slogans. It cannot be moved by those who cling to a present which is already dying, who prefer the illusion of security to the excitement of danger. It demands the qualities of youth: not a time of life but a state of mind, a temper of the will, a quality of the imagination, a predominance of courage over timidity, of the appetite for adventure over the love of ease.

Senator Robert F. Kennedy, "Day of Affirmation,' address delivered at the University of Capetown, South Africa, June 6, 1966.—Congressional Record, June 6, 1966, vol. 112, p. 12430.Kennedy was quoting Samuel Ullman's description of youth; see No. 2099.

Youth

That age is best which is the first

When youth and blood are warmer.

Robert Herrick

Youth

That we may live to see England once more possess a free Monarchy and a privileged and prosperous People, is my Prayer; that these great consequences can only be brought about by the energy and devotion of our Youth is my persuasion. We live in an age when to be young and to be indifferent can be no longer synonymous. We must prepare for the coming hour. The claims of the Future are represented by suffering millions; and the Youth of a Nation are the trustees of Posterity.

Benjamin Disraeli, Sybil, final sentence, p. 497 (1980). First published 1845.

Youth

The evening is come; rise up, ye youths. Vesper from Olympus now at last is just raising his long-looked-for light.

Gaius Valerius Catullus

Carmina, LXII, 1

Youth

The greatest reverence is due the young.

Decimus Junius Juvenal

Satires, XIV, 47

Youth

The history of the race, and each individual's experience, are thick with evidence that a truth is not hard to kill and that a lie told well is immortal.

Samuel L. Clemens ("Mark Twain") (1835-1910)

Advice to Youth (published 1923)

Youth

The most conservative persons I ever met are college undergraduates. The radicals are the men past middle life.

Woodrow Wilson, president of Princeton, speech to the Inter-Church Conference on Federation, New York City, November 19, 1905, as reported by The New York Times next day.—The Papers of Woodrow Wilson, ed. Arthur S. Link, vol. 16, p. 228.

Youth

The strength of a nation is in its youth.

Saying on Swedish School

Youth

The young leading the young, is like the blind leading the blind; "they will both fall into the ditch."

Lord Chesterfield, letter to Philip Stanhope, his natural son, November 24, 1747.—The Letters of Philip Dormer Stanhope, 4th Earl of Chesterfield, vol. 3, p. 1057 (1932).The second part of the sentence quotes the Bible, Matthew 15:14.

In a later letter to his son, January 15, 1753, Lord Chesterfield remarked that "Young men are as apt to think themselves wise enough, as drunken men are to think themselves sober enough."—Letters, vol. 5, pp. 1994-95.

Youth

The youth gets together his materials to build a bridge to the moon, or, perchance, a palace or temple on the earth, and, at length, the middle-aged man concludes to build a woodshed with them.

Henry David Thoreau

Youth

Thou know'st the o'er-eager vehemence of youth,

How quick in temper, and in judgement weak.

Homer, The Iliad, book 23, lines 677-78, trans. Edward, Earl of Derby, ed. 5, vol. 2, pp. 372-73 (1865).The many translations of these lines of Homer's vary: The Iliad of Homer, trans. into blank verse by William Cullen Bryant, vol. 4, p. 139 (1905), "Thou dost know / The faults to which the young are ever prone; / The will is quick to act, the judgment weak"; Robert Graves, The Anger of Achilles, p. 364 (1959), "It is easy for a youngster to go wrong from hastiness and lack of thought"; and Robert Fitzgerald, p. 553, lines 588-89 (1974), "You know a young man may go out of bounds: his wits are nimble, but his judgment slight."

Youth

Through our great good fortune, in our youth our hearts were touched with fire. It was given to us to learn at the outset that life is a profound and passionate thing.

Oliver Wendell Holmes, associate justice, supreme court of Massachusetts, address before John Sedgwick Post No. 4, Grand Army of the Republic, Keene, New Hampshire, May 30, 1884.—Speeches of Oliver Wendell Holmes, p. 11 (1934).

Youth

Toll me what are the prevailing sentiments that occupy the minds of your young men, and I will tell you what is to be the character of the next generation.

Attributed to Edmund Burke.—John P Bradley, Leo F. Daniels, and Thomas C. Jones, The International Encyclopedia of Quotations, p. 791 (1978). Unverified.

Youth

Twenty to twenty-five! These are the years! Don't be content with things as they are…. Don't take No for an answer. Never submit to failure. Do not be fobbed off with mere personal success or acceptance. You will make all kinds of mistakes; but as long as you are generous and true, and also fierce, you cannot hurt the world or even seriously distress her. She was made to be wooed and won by youth. She has lived and thrived only by repeated subjugations.

Winston Churchill, A Boving Commission, chapter 4, p. 60 (1930).

Youth

We have all seen with a sense of nausea the abject, squalid, shameless avowal made in the Oxford Union. We are told that we ought not to treat it seriously. The Times talked of "the children's hour." I disagree. It is a very disquieting and disgusting symptom. One can almost feel the curl of contempt upon the lips of the manhood of Germany, Italy, and France when they read the message sent out by Oxford University in the name of Young England.

Let them be assured that it is not the last word. But before they blame, as blame they should, these callow ill-tutored youths, they must be sure that they have not been set a bad example by people much older and much higher up.

Winston Churchill, extract of address, Anti-Socialist and Anti-Communist Union meeting, London, February 17, 1933.—Winston S. Churchill: His Complete Speeches, 1897-1963, ed. Robert Rhodes James, vol. 5, p. 5220 (1974).On February 9, undergraduates at the Oxford Union had approved the resolution, "That this House refuses in any circumstances to fight for King and Country" by a vote of 275 to 153. The editorial in The Times (London) appeared February 13, p. 13. See Martin Gilbert, Winston S. Churchill, vol. 5, p. 456 (1976) for a slightly varied version of Churchill's speech.

Youth

What slender youth, bedewed with liquid odors,

Courts thee on roses in some pleasant cave,

Pyrrha? For whom bind'st thou

In wreaths thy golden hair,

Plain in thy neatness?

Horace [Quintas Horatius Flaccus]

Odes, I, v, 1

Youth

When the brisk minor pants for twenty-one.

Alexander Pope

Youth

Yet, Ah, that Spring should vanish with the Rose!

That Youth's sweet-scented manuscript should close!

Edward Fitzgerald

Youth

You are young at any age if you are planning for tomorrow.

The Sword of the Lord

Youth

Young men are fitter to invent, than to judge; fitter for execution than for counsel; and fitter for new projects than for settled business;….Young men, in the conduct and manage of actions, embrace more than they can hold; stir more than they can quiet; fly to the end, without consideration of the means and degrees; pursue some few principles which they have chanced upon absurdly; care not to innovate, which draws unknown inconveniences; use extreme remedies at first; and that, which doubleth all errors, will not acknowledge or retract them, like an unruly horse, that will neither stop nor turn. Men of age object too much, consult too long, adventure too little, repent too soon, and seldom drive business home to the full period, but content themselves with a mediocrity of success.

Francis Bacon, "Of Youth and Age," essay 42, The Works of Francis Bacon, ed. Basil Montagu, vol. 1, p. 48 (1844). Based on the 1625 edition but with modernized spelling.

Youth

Youth is a wonderful thing. What a crime to waste it on children.

Attributed to George Bernard Shaw.

—Franklin P. Adams,

FPA Book of Quotations, p. 883 (1952).

Archibald Henderson, in his third biography

of Shaw, George Bernard Shaw: Man of the Century,

chapter 62, p. 845 (1956), included this statement

(using "sin" instead of "crime") in a section of anecdotes.

He had not included this in earlier biographies of 1911 and 1932.

The anecdote apparently was first told in the 1930s, since it is one which appears in Lewis and Faye Copeland, 10,000 Jokes, Toasts, & Stories, p. 555 (1939, 1940). It was also used in Reader's Digest, April 1940, p. 84. Sometimes heard"…waste it on the young."Dr. Stanley Weintraub, author and editor of books on Shaw, believes this is incorrectly attributed to Shaw and that it actually belongs to Oscar Wilde, since Shaw often took quotations from Wilde and inverted them for his own use.

Youth

Youth is not a time of life—it is a state of mind. It is not a matter of red cheeks, red lips and supple knees. It is a temper of the will; a quality of the imagination; a vigor of the emotions; it is a freshness of the deep springs of life. Youth means a tempermental predominance of courage over timidity, of the appetite for adventure over a life of ease. This often exists in a man of fifty, more than in a boy of twenty. Nobody grows old by merely living a number of years; people grow old by deserting their ideals.

Years may wrinkle the skin, but to give up enthusiasm wrinkles the soul. Worry, doubt, self-distrust, fear and despair—these are the long, long years that bow the head and turn the growing spirit back to dust.

Whether seventy or sixteen, there is in every being's heart a love of wonder; the sweet amazement at the stars and starlike things and thoughts; the undaunted challenge of events, the unfailing childlike appetite for what comes next, and the joy in the game of life.

You are as young as your faith, as old as your doubt; as young as your self-confldence, as old as your fear, as young as your hope, as old as your despair.

In the central place of your heart there is a wireless station. So long as it receives messages of beauty, hope, cheer, grandeur, courage, and power from the earth, from men and from the Inflnite—so long are you young. When the wires are all down and the central places of your heart are covered with the snows of pessimism and the ice of cynicism, then are you grown old, indeed!

Samuel Ullman, "Youth."—Jane Manner, The Silver Treasury, Prose and Versefor Every Mood, pp. 323-24 (1934). This version is longer and also has minor variations in wording and punctuation from that in a privately printed edition of Ullman's poems, From the Summit of Years, Four Score (n.d.). The oft-quoted "you are as young as your faith, as old as your doubt," etc., is missing in From the Summit of Years…fourth paragraph:

Whether sixty or sixteen, there is in every human being's heart the lure of wonder, the unfailing child-like appetite of what's next, and the joy of the game of living. In the center of your heart and my heart there is a wireless station; so long as it receives messages of beauty, hope, cheer, courage and power from men and from the Inflnite, so long are you young.

General Douglas MacArthur quoted the entire poem without attribution on his seventy-fifth birthday, in a speech to the Los Angeles County Council, American Legion, Los Angeles, California, January 26, 1955.—Representative Speeches of General of the Army Douglas MacArthur p. 85 (1964). Senate Doc. 88-95.MacArthur had this framed over his desk when visited in Manila by war correspondent Colonel Frederick Palmer, according to an article in This Week Magazine condensed in the December 1945 issue of The Reader's Digest, p. 1, which said, "The General has had it in sight ever since it was given to him some years ago…it is based on a poem written by the late Samuel Ullman of Birmingham, Ala."

Speaker of the House Sam Rayburn's seventy-eighth birthday fell upon the opening day of the second session of the 86th Congress. "During the January 6 [1960] ceremonies someone remembered what General Douglas MacArthur had said on his own seventy-fifth birthday and thought it applied quite well to Rayburn."—C. Dwight Dorough, Mr Sam, chapter 22, p. 546 (1962). There followed an excerpt of this poem, but it is not to be found in the Congressional Record account of the day, so perhaps the remembrance was an informal one.

Youth

Youth is not a time of life—it is a state of mind. It is not a matter of ripe cheeks, red lips and supple knees; it is a temper of the will, a quality of the imagination, a vigor of the emotion; it is a freshness of the deep springs of life. Youth means a temperamental predominance of courage over timidity, of the appetite for adventure over love of ease. This often exists in a man of fifty, more than in a boy of twenty. Nobody grows old by merely living a number of years; people grow old only by deserting their ideals.

Author Unknown

Youth

[At Achilles' tomb] O fortunate youth, to have found Homer as the herald of your glory!

Alexander the Great

From Cicero, Pro Archia 24

Zeal

All true zeal for God is a zeal less for love, mercy and goodness.

James Thompson

Zeal

I do not love a man who is zealous for nothing.

Oliver Goldsmith

Zeal

Mere enthusiasm is the all in all.

William Blake

Alexander Gilchrist, Life of William Blake, 1880.

Zeal

Through zeal, knowledge is gotten, through lack of zeal, knowledge is lost; let a man who knows this double path of gain and loss thus place himself that knowledge may grow.

Buddha

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A

• Abbot, F. E.

• Abbott, Charles F.

• Abbott, Lymann

• Abd-el-Raham

• Abelard, Peter

• Abu'l-Ala-Al-Ma'arri

• Accius, Lucius

• Acheson, Dean

• Adamic, Louis

• Adams, Abigail

• Adams, Charles Francis

• Adams, Francis

• Adams, Henry

• Adams, Joey

• Adams, John Quincy

• Adams, John

• Adams, Samuel

• Adams, Thomas

• Addison, Joseph

• Adler, Mortimer

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• Aeschylus

• Aesop

• Agapet

• Agassiz, Louis

• Agathon

• Agesilaus

• Air Force

• Akiba, Ben Joseph

• Al-Ghazali, Abu Hamid Muhammad Ibn Muhammad

• Alarcon, Juan Ruiz de

• Alberti, Leon Battista

• Alcaeus

• Alcott, A. B.

• Alcuin

• Aldrich, T. B.

• Alexander The Great

• Alexander, J. W.

• Aleyn

• Alfieri, Conte Vittorio

• Alfonso X

• Alger, R. W.

• Alighieri, Dante

• Alison

• Alison, A.

• Allen, Charles

• Allen, Ethan

• Allen, Hervey

• Allen, James

• Allen, Louis A.

• Allsion, Washington

• Alsaker, Dr.

• Altgeld, John Peter

• Amalric

• Ambrose, St.

• Ames, Fisher

• Amiel, Henri Frederic

• Anagreon

• Anarcharsis

• Anatole France

• Anderson, Hans Christian

• Anderson, Paul A.

• Angelo, Michael

• Angelou, Maya

• Anselm, St.

• Anspacher, Louis

• Anthony, Susan B.

• Antigonus

• Antiphanes

• Antoninus, Marcus Aurelius

• Apelles

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• Aquinas, St. Thomas

• Aratus

• Arbuthnot, John

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• Armour, J. Ogden

• Arnold

• Arnold, Matthew

• Arnold, Sir Edwin

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• Arrington, Eva

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• Asoka

• Athenian Ephebic Oath

• Atterbury

• Atwell, George

• Aubrey, John

• Auchester, C.

• Aue, Hartmann Von

• Aughey

• Augustine, St.

• Aurelius, Marcus

• Arthur, Joseph, Count de Gobineau

• Averroes

B

• Babcock, Maltbie

• Babeuf, Francois Emile (Gracchus)

• Babson, Roger W.

• Bache, B. F.

• Bacher, June Masters

• Bacon, Leonard

• Bacon, Roger

• Bacon, Sir Francis

• Bacon, W. T.

• Baer, George F.

• Bagehot, Walter

• Bailey

• Bailey, Gamaliel

• Bailey, Henry J.

• Bailey, Philip J.

• Baillie, Joanna

• Bakunin, Mikhail A.

• Baldwin, James

• Baldwin, Stanley

• Balfour

• Balfour, Mrs.

• Balguy

• Ball, John

• Ballinger, George W.

• Ballou, Hosea

• Balzac, Honore de

• Bancroft, George

• Barbour, John

• Barca, Pedro Calderon de la

• Barlow, Joel

• Barnes, Harry L.

• Barnfield, Richard

• Barnum, P. T.

• Barrett, E. S.

• Barrie, Sir James M.

• Barrow, Isaac

• Barrymore, Ethel

• Bartholini

• Bartol, C. A.

• Barton, Bruce

• Baruch, Bernard

• Basho, Matsuo

• Basil, St.

• Bastiat

• Baten, Anderson M.

• Bates, Katharine Lee

• Batuik

• Baudelaire, Charles

• Baur, Ferdinand Christian

• Bavell, Christian

• Beadle, E. R.

• Beaumarchais, Pierre Augustin de

• Beaumont

• Beaumont, J.

• Bebel, August

• Beccaria, Cesare

• Becque, Henry

• Bede, The Venerable

• Beecher, Henry Ward

• Beecher, Lyman

• Beethoven, Ludwig van

• Behn, Aphra

• Bell, Alexander Graham

• Bell, Bernard Iddings

• Bellamy, Edward

• Bellamy, Guy

• Bellarmine, St. Robert

• Bellay, Joachim Du

• Benchley, Robert

• Benedict, E. L.

• Benedict, St.

• Benet, Stephen Vincent

• Bennett, Arnold

• Bennett, James Gordon

• Bennett, William

• Benserade

• Benson, A. C.

• Benson, R. H.

• Bentham, Jeremy

• Benton, Thomas

• Bergerac, Cyrano de

• Bergson

• Berkeley, George

• Berlioz, Hector

• Bernard, Claude

• Bernard, St.

• Berry, Karen

• Berston, Hyman Maxwell

• Bessant, Annie

• Beyle, Henry

• Bible, The

• Biel, Gabriel

• Bierce, Ambrose

• Bierstedt, Robert

• Billings, John

• Billings, Josh (Henry Wheeler Shaw)

• Bingham

• Binney, T.

• Bion

• Bismarck, Prince Otto von

• Bismarck-Schoenhausen, Otto von

• Bismarck

• Blackie

• Blackstone, Sir William

• Blair

• Blake, William

• Blavatsky, Elena (Petrovna)

• Blessington, Lady

• Bliss, Daniel

• Boardman, G. D.

• Bobart, J.

• Bodin, Jean

• Boerhave

• Boerne, Ludwig

• Boethius

• Boileau-Despreaux, Nicolas

• Bolingbroke, Henry St. John

• Bolivar, Simon

• Bonald

• Bonaparte, Jerome

• Bonaparte, Louis

• Bonaparte, Napoleon

• Bonar, H.

• Boniface VIII

• Bonstettin

• Booth, Edwin

• Booth, John Wilkes

• Borgia, Cesare

• Bosquet, Pierre Francois Joseph

• Bossuet, Jacques Benigne

• Boswell, James

• Bovee

• Bowen, Sir Harold

• Bowles, Samuel

• Bowring, Sir John

• Boyle

• Boyse, J. F.

• Bracken, Thomas

• Bradford, William

• Bradlaugh, Charles

• Bradley, F. H.

• Bradstreet, Anne

• Bragdon, A. B.

• Bragg, Edward

• Brahms, Johannes

• Brajharel, Mary Gardiner

• Brann, William Cowper

• Breville

• Briand, Aristide

• Bright, John

• Brissot, Jacques Pierre

• Brodie

• Bromfield, Louis

• Brontë, Charlotte

• Brooke, H.

• Brooke, Rupert

• Brooke, S.

• Brooks, Phillips

• Brougham, Henry Peter (Lord Brougham)

• Broun, Heywood

• Brown, Derby

• Brown, E. P.

• Brown, Frank H.

• Brown, Gene

• Brown, J.

• Brown, John

• Brown, John Mason

• Brown, Sister

• Brown, Tom

• Brown, William Goldsmith

• Browne, Charles

• Browne, Sir Thomas

• Browning, Robert

• Brownson, Orestes A.

• Bruckner, Anton

• Bruno, Giordano

• Bruyere, Jean de la

• Bryan, William Jennings

• Bryant

• Bryant, Paul Bear

• Bryant, William Cullen

• Bucer, Martin

• Buchan, John

• Buchanan, James

• Buchanan, Robert

• Buck, Charles

• Buck, Pearl S.

• Buckham, James

• Buckingham

• Buckle, Henry Thomas

• Buddha

• Buffon, Georges de

• Bulwer

• Bulwer-Lytton, Edward G.

• Bunche, Ralph

• Bunsen

• Bunyan, John

• Burbank, Luther

• Burckhardt, Jacob

• Burgh, James

• Burke, Edmund

• Burleigh, W. H.

• Burnham

• Burns, Robert

• Burroughs, John

• Burton

• Burton, Nathaniel J.

• Burton, Sir Richard Francis

• Burton, Robert

• Bury, Richard de

• Busenbaum, Hermann

• Bushnell, Horace

• Bussy-Rabutin, Roger de

• Butler

• Butler, Joseph

• Butler, Nicholas

• Butler, Samuel

• Buxton, C. C.

• Buxton, Charles

• Byron, George Gordon (Lord Byron)

C

• Caedmon

• Caesar, Augustus

• Caesar, Germanicus

• Caesar, Julius

• Caird, John

• Calderon, Pedro

• Calhoun, John C.

• Calkins, Earnest Elmo

• Callimachus

• Calvin, John

• Calyle, Thomas

• Cameron, Simon

• Campanella, Tommasso

• Campbell, Anne

• Campbell, Thomas

• Canning, George

• Canute The Great

• Cardinal Richelieu

• Carew, Thomas

• Caritat, Marie Jean Nicolas Antoine de

• Carleton, Will

• Carlile, Richard

• Carlyle, Thomas

• Carnegie, Andrew

• Carrel, Alexis, M.D.

• Carroll, Charles

• Carroll, Lewis

• Carter, James Coolidge

• Cartwright, William

• Cassiodorus, Magnus Aurelius

• Castro, Josue de

• Cato, Marcus Porcius

• Catullus, Gaius Valerius

• Cavell, Edith (Louisa)

• Cavour, Camillo di

• Cecil, Richard

• Celano, Tommaso Di

• Cervantes, Miguel de

• Chalfant, John W.

• Chambers, Robert W.

• Chamfort, Sebastian

• Channing, William Ellery

• Chapin, Edwin Hubbel

• Chapman

• Chapman, Andrew

• Chapman, George

• Chardin, Pierre Teilhard de

• Charles The Bold

• Charles II

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• Charron

• Chase, Salmon P.

• Chase, Stuart

• Chateaubriand

• Chatham, Lord

• Chaucer, Geoffrey

• Chausee, Pierre de La

• Cheever, G. B.

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• Chesterton, G. K.

• Chevalier, Maurice

• Child, L. M.

• Childs, George Williams

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• Chopin, Frederic

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• Christensen, Doris

• Chrysostom, St. John

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• Chuang-Tzu

• Chung-Shu, Tung

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• Churchill, Winston

• Ciardi, John

• Cicero, Marcus Tullius

• Cierva

• Clarendon

• Clark, Alex

• Clark, Frank A.

• Clark, Harold Glen

• Clarke

• Clarke, Adam

• Clarke, Arthur C.

• Clarke, James F.

• Claudian

• Clausewitz, Karl von

• Clay, Henry

• Cleanthes

• Clement of Alexandria

• Cleveland, Grover

• Cleyre, Voltarine de

• Cloete, Stuart

• Clough, Arthur Hugh

• Clovis

• Cobbett

• Cobett, William

• Cockburn, Sir Alexander

• Cocteau, Jean

• Cody, Frank

• Coffin, Harold

• Coginard, Theodore and Hippolyte

• Cohen, Betsy

• Coke, Sir Edward

• Coleridge

• Coleridge, Samuel T.

• Coleridge, William H.

• Coley, S.

• Collier, Jeremy

• Collins, John C.

• Collyer, Robert

• Colton, Charles C.

• Columbus, Christopher

• Comenius, John

• Comte, Auguste

• Confucius

• Congreve

• Connolly, Cyril

• Conrad, Joseph

• Conran, Shirley

• Constant, Benjamin

• Conway

• Cook, Joseph

• Cooke, P.

• Coolidge, Calvin

• Cooper, James Fenimore

• Cooper, Thomas

• Copeland, Bill

• Copernicus, Nicholas

• Corbet, Richard

• Corneille, Pierre

• Corot, Jean-Baptiste-Cammille

• Cosby, Bill

• Cotton, John

• Cousin, Victor

• Covey, Stephen R.

• Cowley, Abraham

• Cowper, William

• Cox, Coleman

• Crabbe, George

• Crane, Frank

• Crane, Stephen

• Crashaw, Richard

• Crassus, Marcus Licinius

• Crates

• Creighton, Mandell

• Crescas, Hasdai Ben Abraham

• Crispus

• Croesus

• Cromwell, Oliver

• Crèvecoeur, Michel-Guillaume Jean de

• Cudworth, Ralph

• Cumberland, Richard

• Curran, John Philpot

• Curtis, Cyrus H. K.

• Curtis, George William

• Cusa, Nicholas de

• Cushing, Dr. Harvey

• Cuyler, T. L.

• Cyprian, St.

• Cyrus

D

• d'Aubigne, Theodore Agrippa

• D'Israeli, Isaac

• D'Orleans, Charles

• Dali, Salvador

• Dana

• Dana, Charles A.

• Dana, James Dwight

• Dana, Richard Henry

• Daniel

• Daniel, Samuel

• Dante

• Danton, Georges Jacques

• Darrow, Clarence

• Darwin, Charles

• Darwin, Erasmus

• Davenant, Sir William

• Davies, Sir John

• Davis, David

• Davis, Elmer

• Davis, J.

• Davis, James J.

• Decatur, Stephen

• Defoe, Daniel

• Degas, Edgar

• Dekker, Thomas

• Delacroix, Eugene

• Deland, Margaretta W.

• Deleon, Daniel

• Delsarte

• Deluzy, Madame

• Democritus

• Demonax

• Demosthenes

• De Moy

• Denham

• Descartes, René

• Deschamps, Eustache

• Desmoulins, Camille

• Despain, Goldie B.

• Dewey, John

• Dexter

• Dickens, Charles

• Dickey, Herbert Spencer

• Dickinson, Emily

• Diderot, Denis

• Dillon, Wentworth, Earl of Roscommon

• Diogenes

• Diogenes The Cynic

• Dionysius of Halicarnassus

• Dionysius The Areopagite

• Disraeli, Benjamin

• Dix, John A.

• Dobell, Byron

• Donne, John

• Dorrance, Dr. J. T.

• Dostoyevski, Fyodor

• Douglas, Stephen A.

• Douglass, Frederick

• Dowling, Edward

• Dowson, Ernest

• Drayton, Michael

• Drayton, William

• Drew

• Driver, Captain William

• Drucker, Peter F.

• Drummond, Henry

• Drummond, Sir William

• Dryden

• Dryden, John

• Dryden, William

• Duboi, Guillaume

• Duhamel, Maurice

• Dumas, Alexandre

• Dumas, Alexandre (péré)

• Dunbar, William

• Dunphy, Laurence

• Durivage

• Dwight, Timothy

• Dyer, Sir Edward

• Dyer, Wayne

• Dyke, Henry Van

E

• Earl of Chesterfield

• Earl of Mansfield

• Earl of Rochester (John Wilmot)

• Earl of Roscommon (Wentworth Dillon)

• Eckhard, Johannes

• Eckhart, Meister

• Eckharthausen

• Eddy, Mary Baker

• Edison, Thomas A.

• Edward III

• Edwards, Jonathan

• Edwards, Mike

• Edwards, Tyron

• Egan, Fay

• Einstein, Albert

• Eisenhower, Dwight David

• Eliot, Charles W.

• Eliot, George

• Elizabeth I

• Elizabeth II

• Elliott, Ebenezer

• Elson, Edward R.

• Elyot, Sir Thomas

• Emerson, Ralph Waldo

• Emmet, Robert

• Emmons, Nathaniel

• Engels, Friedrich

• English, T. D.

• Ennius, Quintus

• Eno, James

• Epictetus

• Epicurus

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• Erickson, Lou

• Erigena, John Scotus

• Erskine, Carl

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• Euclid

• Eugenius IV

• Euripides

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• Everett, Edward

• Evremond, St.

• Ewald, Johannes

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• Fletcher

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• Florus, Lucius Annaeus

• Fokker, Anthony H. G.

• Fontaine, Jean de la

• Fontanes, Louis Marquis de

• Forbes, B. C.

• Ford, Elias A.

• Ford, Henry

• Ford, John

• Forrest, Edwin

• Fosdick, Harry Emerson

• Foster, John

• Fouché, Joseph, Duke of Otrante

• Fowler, Orson Squire

• Fox, Emmett

• Fox, George

• Francis, Sir P.

• Frank, Glenn

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• Frederick I

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• Freidank

• Freneau, Philip M.

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• Friswell, J. H.

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• Fuller, Thomas

• Fuller, Thomas (1608-1661)

• Fuller, Thomas (1654-1734)

G

• Galen, Claudius (Galenus)

• Galilei, Galileo

• Gandhi, Mahatma

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• Garibaldi, Giuseppe

• Garrick, David

• Garrison, William Lloyd

• Garth, Samuel

• Gatty, Mrs.

• Gauguin, Paul

• Gautier, Théophile

• Gay, John

• Geikie, J. C.

• Gelasius I

• Gellius, Aulus

• George, David Lloyd

• George, Henry

• Gerhardt, Paul

• Gerould, Katherine Fullerton

• Geulinex, Arnold

• Gibbon, Edward

• Gibbons, James

• Gibbs, Wolcott

• Gibran, Kahlil

• Giddings, Joshua R.

• Gilbert, W. S.

• Giles

• Gillilian, Strickland

• Ginzberg, Eli

• Giovanni, Fra

• Girardin

• Gissing, George (Robert)

• Gita, Bhagavad

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• Gladstone, William Ewart

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• Glynn

• Godfrey, Arthur

• Godwin, William

• Goethals, George W.

• Goethe, Johann Wolfgang von

• Goldsmith, Oliver

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• Goodspeed, E. J.

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• Grafton, Richard

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• Gregory

• Gregory I

• Gregory XIII

• Greville, Fulke (Lord Brooke)

• Grey, Lady Jane

• Grout, H. W.

• Grundy, Joseph R.

• Guest, Edgar A.

• Guillaume, Charles

• Guion, Mde.

• Guizot

• Gunderson

• Gurney, J. J.

• Guthrie

H

• Hadley, Arthur T.

• Hadrian

• Haldane, J. B. S.

• Hale, Edward Everett

• Hale, Nathan

• Hale, Sir Matthew

• Haliburton, Thomas Chandler

• Hall, Bp.

• Hall, E. B.

• Hall, Joseph

• Halleck

• Hamann, Johann

• Hamilton, Alexander

• Hamilton, Andrew

• Hamilton, Gail

• Hamilton, J.

• Hammarskjöld, Dag

• Hammerstein, Oscar

• Hancock, John

• Hanks, Marion D.

• Hao, Ching

• Harding, Warren G.

• Hardy, A. S.

• Hare, August

• Harington, Sir John

• Hariri, Abu Mohammed Kasim Ben Ali

• Harris, Joel Chandler

• Harris, Sydney J.

• Harrison, William Henry

• Harvey, William

• Haskins, Henry S.

• Havergal, F. R.

• Havhamess, Alan

• Hawes, J.

• Hawthorne, Nathaniel

• Hayes, Rutherford B.

• Hazlitt, William

• Heber, Bishop

• Hedge, Frederick H.

• Hegel, Georg Wilhelm

• Heine, Heinrich

• Heloise

• Helps, Sir Arthur

• Helvetius, Claude Adrien

• Hemans, Mrs.

• Hendrick, George R.

• Heng, Chang

• Henri IV of France

• Henry II

• Henry, John

• Henry, M.

• Henry, Patrick

• Henry, Philip

• Heraclitus

• Herbert

• Herbert, E.

• Herbert, George

• Herder

• Herodotus

• Herold, Don

• Herrick, Robert

• Herschel

• Hesiod

• Heywood, John

• Heywood, Thomas

• Higginson, T. W.

• Hightower, Cullen

• Hill

• Hill, Napoleon

• Hillard, G. S.

• Hippocrates

• Hipponax

• Hitchcock, R. D.

• Ho, Hsieh

• Hobbes, Thomas

• Hodge, C.

• Hoffer, Eric

• Hoffman, Richard H.

• Hogarth

• Hokusai, Katsushika

• Holland, J. G.

• Holle, H. A., M.D.

• Holmes, Oliver Wendell

• Holmes, Oliver Wendell, Sr.

• Holtz, Lou

• Homer

• Hood, Paxton

• Hood, Thomas

• Hooke, Robert

• Hooker, Richard

• Hoover, Herbert

• Hopkins, Bp.

• Horace (Quintus Horatius Flaccus)

• Horne, Bp.

• Horne, George

• Horwitz, William

• Howard

• Howe, John

• Howe, Julia Ward

• Howells

• Howson

• Hubbard, Alice

• Hubbard, Elbert

• Hubbard, Kin

• Hughes, Charles

• Hugo, John J.

• Hugo, Victor

• Humboldt

• Humboldt, Karl W.

• Hume, David

• Hunt, Diana Scharf

• Hunt, Freeman

• Hunt, Leigh

• Hunt, W. M.

• Hurst, Fannie

• Huss, John

• Huxley, Aldous

• Huxley, Thomas Henry

I

• Ibn-Abu-Talib, Ali

• Ibsen, Henrik

• Ibycus

• Inge, William

• Ingersoll, Robert G.

• Iphicrates

• Irving, Washington

• Isocrates

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• Jackson, Andrew

• James, Carla B.

• James, William

• Jameson, Anna

• Jameson, Mrs.

• Jay, John

• Jay, W.

• Jaylot, Prosper, Sieur de Crébillion

• Jefferson, Thomas

• Jeffrey, Francis

• Jensen, Andrew

• Jerome, St.

• Jerrold, Douglas

• Jesus Christ

• Jewell, John

• Jewsbury, Miss

• Johnson

• Johnson, Charles C.

• Johnson, Claiborne

• Johnson, Lyndon B.

• Johnson, Samuel

• Jones, Franklin P.

• Jones, Howard Mumford

• Jones, Lloyd

• Jones, Sir William

• Jonson, Ben

• Jordan, D. S.

• Jordan, Dr. DuPree, Jr.

• Joubert, Joseph

• Judson, Edward

• Julian

• Julius III

• Junius

• Just, St.

• Juvenal, Decimus Junius

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• K'ai-Chih, Ku

• Kant, Immanuel

• Karamazov, Dmitri

• Karr, Alphonse

• Keats, John

• Keble, John

• Keen, Joseph R.

• Keith, Sir Arthur

• Keller, Helen

• Kelvin, Lord

• Kempis, Thomas A.

• Kempton, Murray

• Kenan, Ernest

• Kenko, Yoshida

• Kennedy, John F.

• Kennedy, Ophelia

• Kenney, Sister

• Kent, Chancellor

• Kepler, Johannes

• Kettering, Charles F.

• Key, Francis Scott

• Khayyam, Omar

• Khrushchev, Nikita S.

• Kieffer, J. S.

• Kierkegaard, Soren

• King, Billie Jean

• King, Dr. William

• Kingsley, Charles

• Kipling, Rudyard

• Kirk, E. N.

• Kirk, William F.

• Kiser, S. E.

• Klein, Julius

• Kleiser, Grenville

• Klemin, Alexander

• Knebel, Fletcher

• Knebel, Karl von

• Knowles, James Sheridan

• Knox, John

• Komachi, Ono No

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• L'Amour, Louis

• L'Estrange

• Lacordaire

• Lacydes

• Ladd

• Laertius, Diogenes

• Lamartine, Prat de

• Lamb, Charles

• Lamennais, Felicite de

• Lampson, Frederick Locker

• Landers, Ann

• Landon, L. E.

• Landor, Walter Savage

• Lane, A. William

• Lang, Andrew

• Larson, Doug

• Latena, Nicolas

• Latham, Peter

• Latimer, George Horace

• Lavater, Johann Kaspar

• Lawes, Lewis E.

• Lazarus, Emma

• Ledru-Rollin, Alexandre

• Lee, Gerald Stanley

• Lee, Robert E.

• Legge, Alexander

• LeGrim, Ursula K.

• Leibniz, Gottfried Wilhelm

• Leighton

• Lenclos, Ninon de

• Lenin, Vladimir Ilich

• Leonard, John

• Leonardo da Vinci

• Lessing, Gotthold E.

• Lessor, Richard

• Levant, Oscar

• Levinson, Harry

• Lewis, G. H.

• Lichliter, McIlyar H.

• Lichtenberg, G. C.

• Liddon, H. P.

• Lilienthal, David E.

• Lille, Alain De

• Lillo

• Lilly

• Lincoln, Abraham

• Lindbergh, Anne Morrow

• Lindbergh, Charles

• Linne, Carl von

• Lippmann, Walter

• Liszt, Franz

• Liverpool, Lord

• Livingstone, David

• Livy

• Llewellyn, Morgan

• Locke, John

• Lombardi, Vince

• Longden, John

• Longfellow, Henry Wadsworth

• Longinus

• Longus

• Loon, Hendrick Willem Van

• Lorayne, Harry

• Lord Acton

• Lord Brooke (Fulke Greville)

• Lord Brougham (Henry Peter Brougham)

• Lord Byron (George Gordon Byron)

• Lord Carlisle

• Lord Chesterfield

• Lord Eustace (Percy)

• Lord Halifax

• Lord Herbert

• Lord John Russell

• Lothair

• Lovelace, Richard

• Lowell, James Russell

• Lubbock, John

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• Macaulay, Thomas Babington

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• Mackenzie

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• Maclaren, A.

• Macleod, N.

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• Madison, James

• Magazine, Sunshine

• Magna Carta

• Magoon, E. L.

• Maharbal

• Mahomet

• Mahoney, Marjorie

• Maimon, Moses Ben

• Maimonides

• Maistre, Joseph Marie de

• Malet, L.

• Malherbe, Francois de

• Mallet

• Malloy, Merritt

• Malory, Sir Thomas

• Mann, Horace

• Manutius, Aldus

• Map, Walter

• Marcellinus, Ammianus

• Marden, Orison Swett

• Maritain, Jacques

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• Marston, John

• Martial, Marcus Valerius

• Martin, Mary

• Martineau, H.

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• Marvell, Andrew

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• Mason, C. A.

• Mason, Erskine

• Mason, George

• Mason, J.

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• Mathews, W.

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• Maupassant, Guy de

• Maurois, Andre

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• Maverick, W. S.

• Maximus, Fabius

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• McCosh

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• McGhie, Frank

• McIntosh, Burr

• McIntosh, Maria

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• McLaughlin, Mignon

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• Meleager

• Mellencamp, John Cougar

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• Melville, Herman

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• Mencius

• Mencken, Henry

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• Metternich, Prince Klemens von

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• Montesquieu, Baron de

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• Moore, John H.

• Moore, Mary Tyler

• Moore

• Mordaunt

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• More, Sir Thomas

• Morely, John

• Morgan, Joy Elmer

• Morgan, Lady

• Morris, William

• Morrow, Dwight

• Morrow, George K.

• Mortimer, Raymond

• Moses

• Mosheim, Johann L. von

• Moss, Phil

• Mountford, William

• Moyle, Henry D.

• Mozart, Wolfgang Amadeus

• Muir, Leo J.

• Mullois, Abbe

• Mulock, Miss

• Mumford, Lewis

• Munger, J. J.

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• Murray, J. A.

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• Neckar, Madame

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• Nietzsche, Friedrich

• Nightingale, Earl

• Northcote, James

• Norton, Charles E.

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• Novalis

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• O'Malley, Austin

• Oath, Athenian Ephebic

• Oath of Office

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• Pascal, Blaise

• Paul, Saint Vincent de

• Payson

• Peabody, George

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• Peale, Norman Vincent

• Pear, Tom H.

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• Peck, Mark A.

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• Petronius, Gaius

• Petronius

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• Pheidippides

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• Phillips, Wendell

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• Pope Leo XIII

• Pope Pius II

• Pope Pius IX

• Pope Pius XI

• Pope Pius XII

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• Porter, Jane

• Porter, Noah

• Porteus, Bishop Beilby

• Potter, H. C.

• Powell

• Prayer, Book of Common

• Prentice, George D.

• Press, Penny

• Priestley, Joseph

• Prime, S. I.

• Prince William of Sweden

• Prior, Matthew

• Probst, Jacob

• Progoff, Ira

• Propertius, Sextus Aurelius

• Protagoras

• Proudfit, A.

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• Pulsford

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• Ray, John

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• Realf, Richard

• Reeder, Fanny S.

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• Renan, Ernest

• Renard, Jules

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• Repkow, Eike Von

• Repplier, Agnes

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• Reynolds, Sir Joshua

• Rhodes, Cecil

• Ricardo, David

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• Richards, Charles

• Richards, Preston D.

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• Riley, James Whitcomb

• Rivarol, Comte de

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• Robespierre, Maximilien de

• Roche, James Jeffrey

• Rochefoucauld, Francois (Duc de la Rochefoucauld)

• Rockefeller, John D.

• Rockefeller, John D., Jr.

• Rogers, H.

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• Rojas, Fernando de

• Rollins, Charles

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• Romalo, Dr. Carlos P.

• Romanorum, Gesta

• Romuloe, General Carlos P.

• Roosevelt, Eleanor

• Roosevelt, Franklin D.

• Roosevelt, Mrs. Franklin D.

• Roosevelt, Theodore

• Roscommon

• Rossetti, Christina

• Rossetti, Dante Gabriel

• Rossini, F. D.

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• Russell, Lord John

• Rutebeuf

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• Sadat, Anwar

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• Saikaku, Ihara

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• St. Augustine

• St. Augustine of Hippo

• St. Basil

• St. Benedict

• St. Cyprian

• St. Evremond

• St. Francois de Sales

• St. Francis of Assisi

• St. Fulgentius

• St. Gregory the Great

• St. Jerome

• St. John Chrysostom

• St. John of Damascus

• St. John the Divine

• St. Just

• St. Pierre

• St. Polycarp of Smyrna

• St. Simon

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• Saintsbury, George

• Saleb, Ali Ben Abu

• Sales, St. Francois de

• Sallust (Gaius Sallustius Crispus)

• Salluste, Guillaume de

• Sanborn, Franklin B.

• Sane, Doc

• Santayana, George

• Sanzio, Raphael

• Sappho

• Sasuly, Richard

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• Saturnius

• Saunders, F.

• Savage, Minot J.

• Savage, Richard

• Savant, Marilyn von

• Savarin

• Savile, George

• Savonarola, Girolamo

• Sawyer, Diane

• Schaeffer, Edith

• Schaff

• Schenck, Ferdinand S.

• Schiller, Friedrich

• Schlegel

• Schopenhauer, Arthur

• Schuller, Robert

• Schultz, Charles

• Schumann, Clara

• Schumann, Robert

• Schurz, Carl

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• Scott, Howard

• Scott, Sir Walter

• Scott, Thomas

• Scovel, S. F.

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• Secker, W.

• Sedley, Sir Charles

• Seingalt, Giovanni Jacopo Casanova de

• Seitter, Maurice

• Selden, John

• Seneca, Lucius Annaeus

• Senn, J. P.

• Service, Robert W.

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• Sevigne, Marquise de (Marie de Rabutin-Chantal)

• Seward, William H.

• Shaftesbury

• Shakespeare, William

• Sharpe

• Shaw, George Bernard

• Shaw, Henry Wheeler

• Shedd, John A.

• Shedd, W. G. T.

• Sheen, Fulton J.

• Sheldon

• Shellet, Stephen

• Shelley, Percy Bysshe

• Shenstone

• Shepard, E.

• Sheridan, Richard Brinsley

• Sherlock

• Sherman, William T.

• Sherwood, Robert

• Shikibu, Murasaki

• Shipley

• Shipton, Mother

• Shirley, James

• Shonagon, Sei

• Sidney, Algernon

• Sidney, Sir Philip

• Sigourney, Mrs.

• Silesius, Angelus

• Sill, Edward Rowland

• Simmons, Charles

• Simms

• Simon, St.

• Simonides

• Simpson, John Roughton

• Sims, William Gilmore

• Singer, Isaac Bashevis

• Skelton, John

• Skobeleff

• Smiles, Samuel

• Smith, Adam

• Smith, Alexander

• Smith, Dean

• Smith, Leigh

• Smith, Logan Pearsall

• Smith, Sydney

• Smith, T. V.

• Smith, Virgil M.

• Smollett

• Socrates

• Solomon

• Solon

• Somerville, Thomas

• Sophocles

• South, Robert

• Southern

• Southey

• Southwell, Robert

• Spellman, Francis Cardinal

• Spencer, Herbert

• Spenser, Edmund

• Spinoza, Benedict

• Sprat

• Spring, S.

• Spurgeon, Charles H.

• Stael-Holstein, Baronne de

• Stael, Madame de

• Stamp, Josiah

• Stanhope, Philip Dormer

• Stanislaus

• Stanley, A. P.

• Stark, Freya

• Statius

• Steele, Sir Richard

• Steere, Bishop

• Steinbeck, John

• Steinem, Gloria

• Stendhal, Henri Beyle

• Stephens, Alexander H.

• Sternac

• Sterne, Laurence

• Stevens, James

• Stevenson, Adlai

• Stevenson, John

• Stevenson, Robert Louis

• Still, John

• Stoughton, William

• Stowe, Harriet Beecher

• Stowe, Mrs.

• Street

• Stuart, Mary

• Suckling, Sir John

• Suetionius

• Sumner, Charles

• Suttapitaka

• Swartz, David

• Swartz, J.

• Swedenborg

• Swetchine, Madame

• Swift, Jonathan

• Sydenham, Thomas

• Syrus, Publilius

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• Tacitus, Cornelius

• Talley, Alfred J.

• Talleyrand-Périgord, Charles-Maurice de

• Talmud, The

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• Taney, Roger B.

• Leonidas of Tarentum

• Taylor, Bayard

• Taylor, Jeremy

• Taylor, Sir Henry

• Taylor, W. M.

• Tchaikovsky, Peter Ilich

• Teika, Fujiwara No

• Temple, Sir William

• Tennyson, Alfred (Lord Tennyson)

• Terence

• Tertullian (Quintus Septimius Florens Tertullianus)

• Thackeray, William Makepeace

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• Theognis

• Theophrastus

• Tholuck

• Thomas

• Thomas, David

• Thomas, Norman

• Thompson, C. L.

• Thompson, James

• Thomson

• Thoreau, Henry David

• Thorold, Bishop

• Thrasea

• Throgmorton, L. E.

• Thucydides

• Tibullus, Albius

• Tichenor, F. A.

• Tillotson, John

• Tiorio

• Tocqueville, Alexis de

• Todd, John

• Tolstoy, Count Leo

• Trollope, Anthony

• Trueblood, Elton

• Trumbull, H. C.

• Tse, Lao

• Tuckerman

• Tully, Jim

• Tupper

• Tusser, Thomas

• Twain, Mark (Samuel T. Clemens)

• Tyger-Ferbes, Frank

• Tzu, Huai-Nan

• Tzu, Lao

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• Ulpian, Domitius

• Updegraff, Robert

• Upham, Dr. S. F.

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• Vanbrugh, John

• Van Buren, Abigail

• Vanderbilt, Cornelius

• Various Authors

• Varro, Marcus Terentius

• Vaughan, Bill

• Vaughan, Henry

• Vauvenargues, Marquis de

• Vega, Lope de

• Vegetius (Flavius Vegetius Renatus)

• Veneklasen, Lucile

• Venning, R.

• Vespasianus, Titus

• Vienzac, Bertrand Barere de

• Vigny, Alfred-Victor de

• Villiers, George

• Villon, Francois

• Vincent, George

• Vinci, Leonardo da

• Vinet, A.

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• Virgil

• Vitellius, Aulus

• Vogelweide, Walther Von Der

• Voltaire

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• Waitley, Denis

• Walker, Addison

• Walker, James J.

• Wall

• Wallace, William Ross

• Waller, Edmund

• Walpole, Horace

• Walpole, Hugh

• Walton, Izaak

• Wanamaker, John

• Warburton, William

• Ward, William Arthur

• Warren, Christine

• Washington, Booker T.

• Washington, George

• Waterland

• Watson, T.

• Watts

• Wayland, F.

• Webster, Daniel

• Webster, John

• Webster, Noah

• Wein, Len

• Welles, Sumner

• Wellesley, Arthur

• Wellington, George R.

• Wendel, C. J.

• Wesley, James

• West, Robert

• Westcot, Brian

• Westcott, Edward Noyes

• Wharton, William

• Whately, Bishop Richard

• Whipple, E. P.

• Whistler, James McNeill

• White, H. K.

• White, William Allen

• Whitman, Walt

• Whittier, John Greenleaf

• Wiggin, Kate Douglas

• Wilcox, Ella Wheeler

• Wilde, Oscar

• William, Prince of Sweden

• William I

• Williams, Roger

• Willis, N. P.

• Willkie, Wendell

• Wilmot, John, Earl of Rochester

• Wilmott

• Wilson, Charles E.

• Wilson, Earl

• Wilson, Woodrow

• Winters, O. B.

• Winthrop, John

• Winthrop, R. C.

• Wither, George

• Woolsey, T. D.

• Wordsworth, William

• Wotton, Sir Henry

• Wray

• Wren, M.

• Wren, Sir Christopher

• Wrighley, William

• Wright, Frank Lloyd

• Wright, Roland

• Wu-Ti, Han

• Wycliffe, John

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• Xenophon

• Xinophanes

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• Young, Edward

• Young, Owen D.

• Young

• Yutang, Lin

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• Zegri, Armando

• Zenger, John Peter

• Zeno

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• Zeuxis

• Zimmerman, John

• Zimmermann

• Zincgref, Julius Wilhelm

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List of Topics for Famous Quotes

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Step 1 Click a letter below to go to that section in the topic listing. Topics are listed alphabetically.

Step 2 Click the topic you wish to view. This will take you to the first of the quotations for this topic. Use the Next and Previous buttons on the Toolbar to view any additional entries. (Note: Some topics may only be addressed by a single quotation.)

Note If you then wish to return from the quotations to the List of Topics, click the Go Back button on the toolbar.

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Click a letter to go to the beginning

of the entries for that letter.

A

• Ability

• Abraham Lincoln

• Absence

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• Abyss of Self

• Accident

• Accomplishment

• Accumulation

• Accuracy

• Achievement

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• Acts

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• Address

• Admiration

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• California

• Calumny

• Camaraderie

• Campaign Funds

• Campus Violence

• Candor

• Capacity

• Capital

• Capitalism

• Capitol Building, Washington, D.C.

• Cards

• Care

• Carelessness

• Caricature

• Caring

• Castles In The Air

• Catholicism

• Cats

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• Caution

• Censorship

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• Civil Rights

• Civil War

• Civilization

• Civilization

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• Closed-mindedness

• Clothing

• Cold War

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• Comfort

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• Communism

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• Compassion

• Complacency

• Complaints

• Compliments

• Compromise

• Conceit

• Condescension

• Confession

• Confidence

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A Plea For the Constitution of the United States by George Bancroft

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The Second Treatise of Government by John Locke

Senate Activities Outside the Chamber

The Senate in Session

[Supreme Court Decisions, 1793-1997] U.S. Reports of Supreme Court Cases

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Teaching With Documents: Using Primary Sources from the National Archives, Volume 1

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