

Great Words from Great Lives

偉人偉論



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Great words — a collection of striking sayings by the great of all ages—form the substance of this booklet. Some take the measure of a man's wisdom, some hold a mirror to his heart, while others touch the funny bone. Yet if these words are memorable it is not only for themselves but because of those who spoke them—men and women who through their own lives have significantly altered or enriched the lives of all of us.

偉人偉論 這本小冊所搜集的，都是歷代偉人的名言。其中一部份表現個人的智慧，一部份反映他們的思想，還有一部份流露他們的諧趣。這些名言使人不忘，並不只是由於名言本身有份量，也因為說這些話的人，曾以他們畢生的努力，改善了或充實了我們所有人的生活。



學大南華

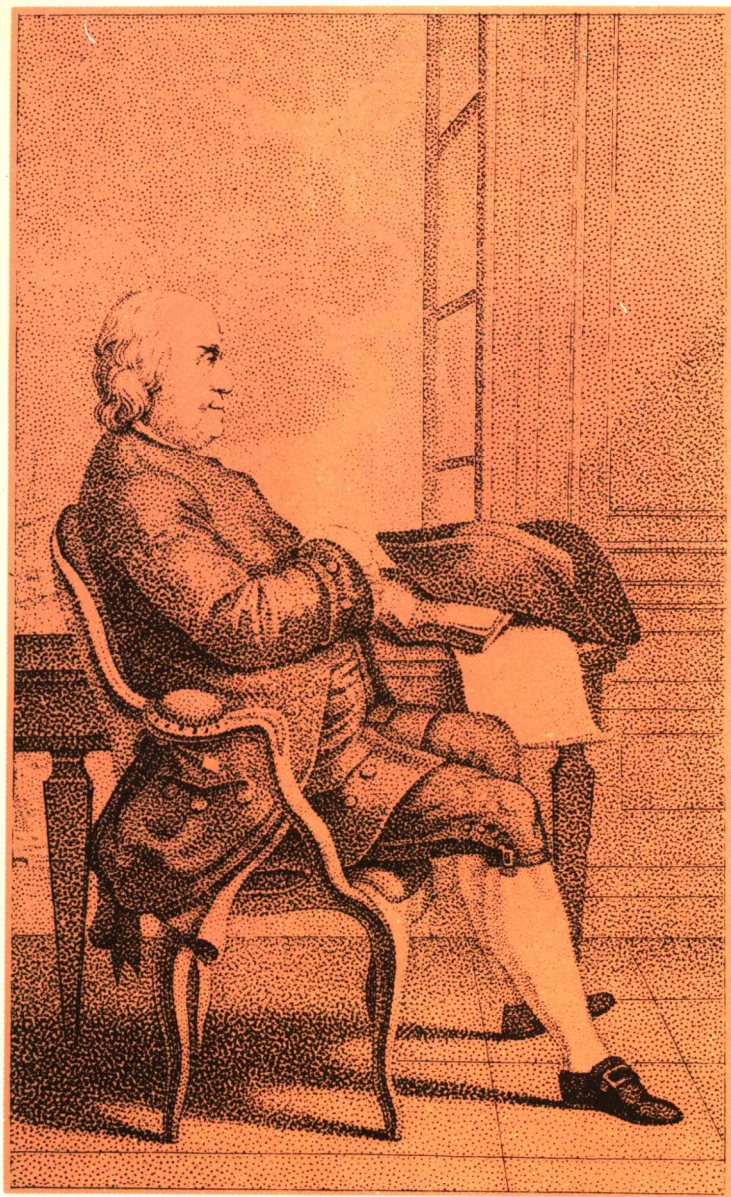
許其說許國



*When the dust of death has choked a great man's
voice, the common words he said turn oracles.*

死亡使一個偉人的聲音沉寂之後，他生前平淡無奇的話，都成了至理名言。

Casa Guidi Windows



They that can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety.

不惜犧牲自由以圖苟安的人，既不配享受自由，也不配獲得安全。

Historical Review of Pennsylvania, 1759

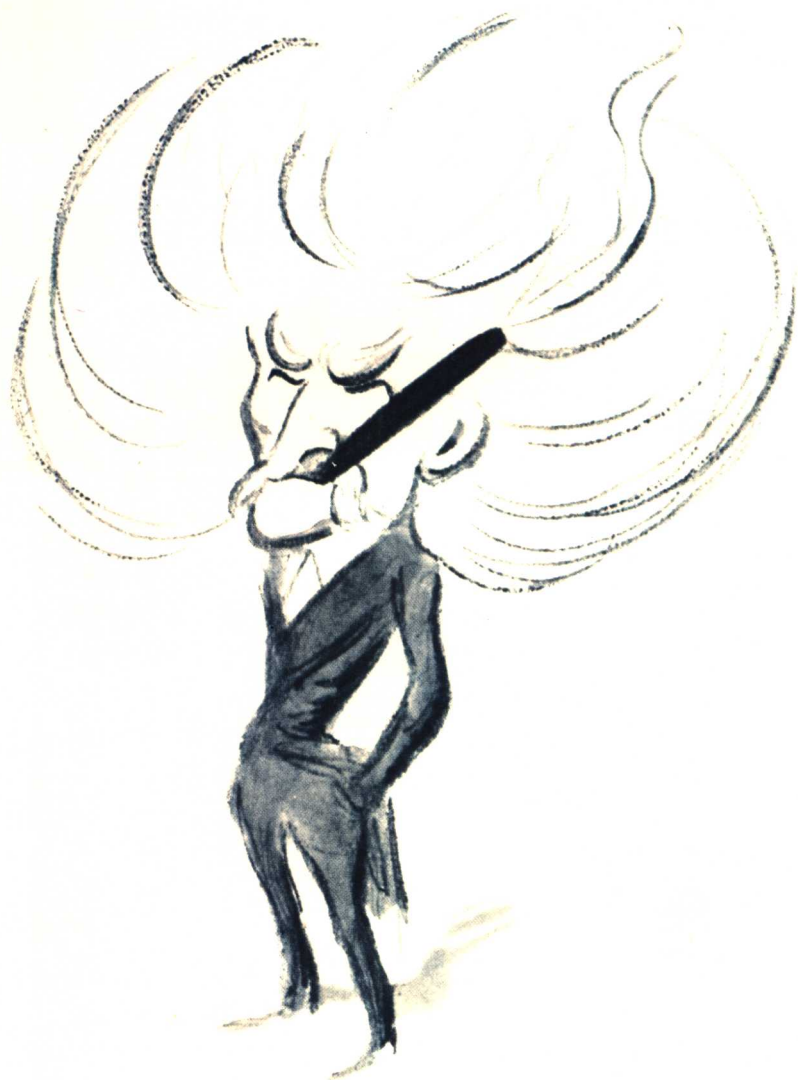
Keep your eyes wide open before marriage, half shut afterwards.

What maintains one vice would bring up two children.

結婚之前要睜大眼睛，結婚之後要半睜半閉。

容忍一宗罪行所付的代價，足夠撫養兩個孩子成材。

Poor Richard's Almanack



Why is it that we rejoice at a birth and grieve at a funeral? It is because we are not the person involved.

Habit is habit, and not to be flung out of the window by any man, but coaxed down-stairs a step at a time.

"Fortune knocks at every man's door once in a life," but in a good many cases, the man is in a neighboring saloon and does not hear her.

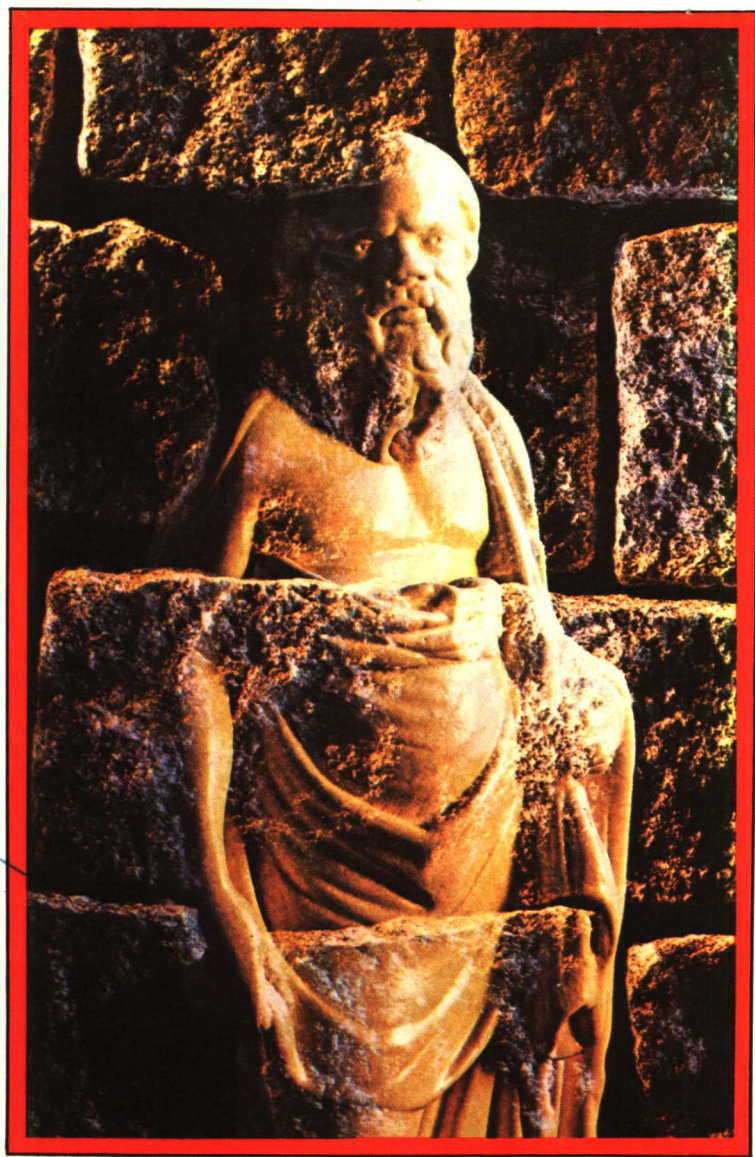
Man is the Only Animal that blushes. Or needs to.

我們爲什麼聽到有人誕生就歡喜，看到有人出殯就悲傷呢？因爲誕生和死亡的都是別人。

習慣就是習慣；沒有人可以把習慣扔出窗外，但可以從樓上把它一步步地哄下來。

每一個人的一生中，幸運女神都來敲過門，可是，許多人竟在鄰室中聽不見她。

人類是唯一會臉紅的動物，或是唯一該臉紅的動物。



If all our misfortunes were laid in one common heap, whence everyone must take an equal portion, most people would be content to take their own and depart.

如果我們把每個人的不幸堆成一堆由大家均分，大多數人都甘願接受一份，欣然離去。

Ad Appolonium de Consolatione, Plutarch



Painting isn't an aesthetic operation; it's a form of magic designed as a mediator between this strange hostile world and us, a way of seizing the power by giving form to our terrors as well as our desires.

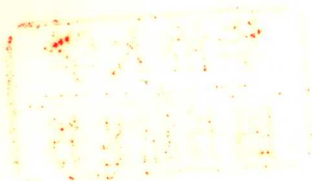
繪畫不是一項美術創作，而是一種法術。既能調和我們與四周充滿敵意環境的關係，又能把我們的恐懼與慾望化為形象表現出來，成為一種攫取權力的工具。

Life with Picasso, by Françoise Gilot and Carlton Lake

Ah, good taste! What a dreadful thing! Taste is the enemy of creativeness.

呵，高尚的風度！多可怕的東西！風度是創造力的敵人！

Quote, 1957



GEORGE BERNARD SHAW

Do not do unto others as you would that they should do unto you: Their tastes may not be the same.

己之所欲，勿施於人。別人的喜惡可能不相同。

The Revolutionist's Handbook

There are two tragedies in life. One is to lose your heart's desire. The other is to gain it.

人生有兩齣悲劇。一是萬念俱灰，另一是躊躇滿志。

Man and Superman

Do not try to live for ever. You will not succeed.

不要總想永遠活下去，你不會成功的。

The Doctor's Dilemma, Preface

學大南華



I who am blind can give one hint to those who see—one admonition to those who would make full use of the gift of sight: Use your eyes as if tomorrow you would be stricken blind. And the same method can be applied to the other senses. Hear the music of voices, the song of a bird, the mighty strains of an orchestra, as if you would be stricken deaf tomorrow. Touch each object you want to touch as if tomorrow your tactile sense would fail. Smell the perfume of flowers, taste with relish each morsel, as if tomorrow you could never smell and taste again.

讓我這失明的人提醒你們有眼人一句話——獻給願意充份利用天賦視力的人一點小小忠告：你要好好運用你的眼睛去看，就好像你明天就要失明一樣。利用其他感官也應如此：你應盡量聽美妙的聲音、鳥兒的歌唱、樂隊奏出的雄壯音樂，就好像明天你就要變成聾子一樣；盡情觸摸每一樣你想觸摸的東西吧，就好像明天你就要失去觸覺一樣；你也應該充份享受花的芬芳和每一口食物的滋味，就好像從明天起，你再也嗅不出氣味、嚐不出味道了。

Three Days to See