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The great tragedy of science is the slaying of a beautiful hypothesis by an ugly fact.

- Huxley, Thomas H.

Youth is the time to go flashing from one end of the world to the other to try the manners of different nations; to hear the chimes at midnight; to see the sunrise in town and country; to be converted at a revival; to circumnavigate the metaphysics, write halting verses, run a mile to see a fire, and wait all day long in the theatre to applaud Hernani.

- Stevenson, Robert Louis

The proof of gold is fire...

- Franklin, Benjamin

Wise men don't need advice. Fools won't take it.

- Franklin, Benjamin

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

- Franklin, Benjamin

At twenty years of age the will reigns; at thirty, the wit; and at forty, the judgment.

- Franklin, Benjamin

If you wouldn't live long, live well; for folly and wickedness shorten life.

- Franklin, Benjamin

An old young man, will be a young old man.

- Franklin, Benjamin

Rather go to bed with out dinner than to rise in debt.

- Franklin, Benjamin

Tricks and treachery are the practice of fools, that don't have brains enough to be honest.

- Franklin, Benjamin

It is much easier to suppress a first desire than to satisfy those that follow.

- Franklin, Benjamin

Diligence is the mother of good luck.

- Franklin, Benjamin

God heals and the doctor takes the fee.

- Franklin, Benjamin

No nation was ever ruined by trade.

- Franklin, Benjamin

If a man empties his purse into his head, no man can take it away from him. An investment in knowledge always pays the best interest.

- Franklin, Benjamin

I have met the enemy, and it is the eyes of other people.

- Franklin, Benjamin

Well done, is better than well said.

- Franklin, Benjamin

He that is good for making excuses is seldom good for anything else.

- Franklin, Benjamin

In the affairs of this world, men are saved not by faith, but by the want of it.

- Franklin, Benjamin

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

- Franklin, Benjamin

There seem 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.

- Franklin, Benjamin

There are three faithful friends, an old wife, an old dog, and ready money.

- Franklin, Benjamin

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.

- Franklin, Benjamin

I think that a young state, like a young virgin, should modestly stay at home, and wait the application of suitors for an alliance with her; and not run about offering her amity to all the world; and hazarding their refusal. Our virgin is a jolly one; and tho at present not very rich, will in time be a great fortune, and where she has a favorable predisposition, it

seems to me well worth cultivating.

- Franklin, Benjamin

Those who govern, having much business on their hands, do not generally like to take the trouble of considering and carrying into execution new projects. The best public measures are therefore seldom adopted from previous wisdom, but forced by the occasion.

- Franklin, Benjamin

There are two ways of being happy: We must either diminish our wants or augment our means -- either may do -- the result is the same and it is for each man to decide for himself and to do that which happens to be easier.

- Franklin, Benjamin

Laws too gentle, are seldom obeyed; too severe, seldom executed.

- Franklin, Benjamin

Those who would give up essential Liberty, to purchase a little temporary Safety, deserve neither Liberty nor Safety.

- Franklin, Benjamin

Where liberty is, there is my country.

- Franklin, Benjamin

Savages we call them because their manners differ from ours.

- Franklin, Benjamin

Where there is marriage without love, there will be love without marriage.

- Franklin, Benjamin

Work as if you were to live a hundred years. Pray as if you were to die tomorrow.

- Franklin, Benjamin

For the want of a nail, the shoe was lose; for the want of a shoe the horse was lose; and for the want of a horse the rider was lost, being overtaken and slain by the enemy, all for the want of care about a horseshoe nail.

- Franklin, Benjamin

Three can keep a secret if two are dead.

- Franklin, Benjamin

Our new Constitution is now established, and has an appearance that promises permanency; but in this world nothing can be said to be certain, except death and taxes.

- Franklin, Benjamin

We must, indeed, all hang together or, most assuredly, we shall all hang separately.

- Franklin, Benjamin

If we do not hang together, we will all hang separately.

- Franklin, Benjamin

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.

- Franklin, Benjamin

I have lived, Sir, a long time, and the longer I live, the more convincing proofs I see of this truththat 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?

- Franklin, Benjamin

Without Freedom of Thought, there can be no such Thing as Wisdom; and no such Thing as publick Liberty, without Freedom of Speech.

- Franklin, Benjamin

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, arrets, and edicts, all the world over, for regulating commerce, an assembly of great men is the greatest fool upon earth.

- Franklin, Benjamin

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.

- Franklin, Benjamin

Whilst the last members were signing [the Constitution], Doctor Franklin, looking towards the Presidents 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.

- Franklin, Benjamin

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.

- Franklin, Benjamin

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.

- Franklin, Benjamin

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.

- Franklin, Benjamin

Well, Doctor, what have we got? A republic or a monarchy? A republic, if you can keep it

- Franklin, Benjamin

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.

- Franklin, Benjamin

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.

- Franklin, Benjamin

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.

- Franklin, Benjamin

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.

- Franklin, Benjamin

Wanting to work is so rare a merit that it should be encouraged.

- Lincoln, Abraham

We enter parliament in order to supply ourselves, in the arsenal of democracy, with its own weapons. If democracy is so stupid as to give us free tickets and salaries for this bear's work, that is its affair. We do not come as friends, nor even as neutrals. We come as enemies. As the wolf bursts into the flock, so we come.

- Goebbels, Paul Joseph

We have made the Reich by propaganda.

- Goebbels, Paul Joseph

Propaganda does not deceive people; it merely helps them to deceive themselves.

- Hoffer, Eric

Propaganda is that branch of the art of lying which consists in nearly deceiving your friends without quite deceiving your enemies.

- Cornford, Francis

Recession is when a neighbor loses his job. Depression is when you lose yours.

- Reagan, Ronald

Status quo, you know, that is Latin for the mess we're in.

- Reagan, Ronald

It's true hard work never killed anybody, but I figure, why take the chance?

- Reagan, Ronald

Unemployment insurance is a pre-paid vacation for freeloaders.

- Reagan, Ronald

No government ever voluntarily reduces itself in size. Government programs, once launched, never disappear. Actually, a government bureau is the nearest thing to eternal life we'll ever see on this earth!

- Reagan, Ronald

Propaganda has a bad name, but its root meaning is simply to disseminate through a medium, and all writing therefore is propaganda for something. It's a seeding of the self in the consciousness of others.

- Drew, Elizabeth

Obedience is better than sacrifice.

- Bible

Only he who believes is obedient and only he who is obedient believes.

- Bonhoeffer, Dietrich

The joy of youth is to disobey; but the trouble is that there are no longer any orders.

- Cocteau, Jean

The reason why men do not obey us is because they see the mud at the bottom of our eye.

- Emerson, Ralph Waldo

A god who let us prove his existence would be an idol.

- Bonhoeffer, Dietrich

The mark of solitude is silence, as speech is the mark of community. Silence and speech have the same inner correspondence and difference as do solitude and community. One does not exist without the other. Right speech comes out of silence, and right silence comes out of speech.

- Bonhoeffer, Dietrich

It is the nature, and the advantage, of strong people that they can bring out the crucial questions and form a clear opinion about them. The weak always have to decide between alternatives that are not their own.

- Bonhoeffer, Dietrich

Action springs not from thought, but from a readiness for responsibility.

- Bonhoeffer, Dietrich

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