

# Alphonse de Lamartine

## Quotes

*Men, Heart, Love, Art, People, Animal, Eye, Greatness, Dog, Mean, Genius,  
Joy, Brother, Time, Two, Country, Fall, Sweet, Passion, Virtue*

If one had but a single glance to give the world, one should gaze on Istanbul.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

If they say "you have your last chance to look at the world", I wish that look would come from the balcony of Istanbul.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

There is no man more complete than the one who travelled a lot, who changed the shape of his thoughts and his life twenty times.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Grief knits two hearts in closer bonds than happiness ever can; and common sufferings are far stronger links than common joys.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Sometimes, only one person is missing, and the whole world seems depopulated.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

The more I see of the representatives of the people, the more I admire my dogs.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

To love for the sake of being loved is human, but to love for the sake of loving is angelic.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Brutality to an animal is cruelty to mankind - it is only the difference in the victim.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

If greatness of purpose, smallness of means, and astonishing results are the three criteria of a human genius, who could dare compare any

great man in history with Muhammad?

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Love is the enchanted dawn of every heart.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Kindness is virtue itself.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

We cannot have two hearts, one for the animals and one for men. In cruelty towards the former and cruelty to the latter there is no difference but in the victim.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Music is the literature of the heart; it commences where speech ends.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Limited in his nature, infinite in his desires, man is a fallen god who remembers the heavens.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Friendship, sweet-resting place of the soul, the gloaming wherein our hearts find peace.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Inspiration is solitary, never consecutive.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

There is a woman at the beginning of all great things.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

We don't have two hearts, one for animals and one for humans ; we have one heart or we don't have any.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Modesty and dew love the shade.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Providence conceals itself in the details of human affairs, but becomes unveiled in the generalities of history.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

A conscience without God is like a court without a judge.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

An artist should have more than two eyes.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Man is born barbarous--he is ransomed from the condition of beasts only by being cultivated.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Radicalism is but the desperation of logic.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Void of freedom, what would virtue be?

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Men are misers, and women prodigal, in affection.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

If God is thy father, human beings are thy brothers and sisters.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Mystery hovers over all things here below.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

The reason that women are so much more sociable than men is because they act more from the heart than the intellect.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Republicanism and ignorance are in bitter antagonism.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Treason, which begins by being cautious, ends by betraying itself.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

All nature is the temple; earth the altar.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Eloquence dwells quite as much in the hearts of the hearers as on the lips of the orator.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

There is a name hidden in the shadow of my soul, where I read it night and day and no other eye sees it.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

The most effective coquetry is innocence.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

After his blood, that which a man can next give out of himself is a tear.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

The attractiveness that exists to man in the very helplessness of woman is scarcely realized.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

A woman's strength is most potent when robed in gentleness.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Good manners require space and time.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Utopias are often just premature truths.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Chance often gives us that which we should not have presumed to ask.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

It is because of the servility of photography that I am fundamentally contemptuous of this chance invention which will never be an art but which plagiarizes nature by means of optics. (1848)

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Thou makest the man, O Sorrow!--yes, the whole man,--as the crucible gold.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Ink is the transcript of thought.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Sad is his lot, who, once at least in his life, has not been a poet.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Enthusiasm is the intoxication of earnestness.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Let us savour the swift delights of the most beautiful of our days!

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Habit with it's iron sinews, clasps us and leads us day by day.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Exquisite beauty resides rather in the female form than face, where it is also more lasting.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Every time that a people which has long crouched in slavery and ignorance is moved to its lowest depths there appear monsters and heroes, prodigies of crime and prodigies of virtue.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Barbarism recommences by the excess of civilization.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

The people only understand what they can feel; the only orators that can affect them are those who move them.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

The photographer will never replace the painter; one is a man, the other a machine. Let us compare them no longer. (1848)

~Alphonse de Lamartine

True greatness is sovereign wisdom. We are never deceived by our virtues.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Newspapers will ultimately engross all literature.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Silence and simplicity obtrude on no one, but are yet two unequalled attractions in woman.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Argument should be polite as well as logical.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Let us enjoy the fugitive hour. Man has no harbor, time has no shore; it rushes on, and carries us with it.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

All our tastes are but reminiscences.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Sentiment is the poetry of the imagination.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

At twenty every one is republican.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Man, man, is thy brother, and thy father is God.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Silence,--the applause of real and durable impressions.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Philosophy is the rational expression of genius.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Yet, in these autumn days when Nature expires, Here, in these veiled scenes, I find more attractions; It is a friend's sad goodbye; it is the last smile From lips that death is going to close forever!

~Alphonse de Lamartine

History teaches everything, even the future.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Poets and heroes are of the same race, the latter do what the former conceive.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Esteem incites friendship, but not love; the former is the twin brother of Reverence; the latter is the child of Equality.

~Alphonse de Lamartine



Poetry is the morning dream of great minds.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Fiction is the microscope of truth.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

True love is the ripe fruit of a lifetime.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Poetry has been the guardian angel of humanity in all ages.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

It is for truth that God created genius.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Civil wars leave nothing but tombs.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Let us love the passing hour, let us hurry up and enjoy our time.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Experience is the only prophecy of wise men.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

I say to this night: "Pass more slowly"; and the dawn will come to dispel the night.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

I am the fellow citizen of every being that thinks; my country is Truth.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

The impartiality of history is not that of the mirror, which merely reflects objects, but of the judge, who sees, listens, and decides.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

He, who can create, abhors destruction.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Ah! let us love, my Love, for Time is heartless, Be happy while you may!

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Unanimity is the mistress of strength.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

...to kill animals for the purpose of feeding on their flesh is one of the most deplorable and shameful infirmities of the human state

~Alphonse de Lamartine

My dog! the difference between thee and me knows only our Creator.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

What is our life but a succession of preludes to that unknown song whose first solemn note is sounded by death?

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Assassination makes only martyrs, not converts.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Photography is better than art. It is a solar phenomenon in which the artist collaborates with the sun.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Women have much more heart and much more imagination than men; hence, fancy often allures them.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Virginity is the poetry, not the reality, of life.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Too much I've seen, and felt, and lov'd in life, Living I come to seek  
Lethaeian calm; Let me, fair scenes! forget all worldly strife, Oblivion  
solely is my bosom's balm.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

When a dog is in your life, there is always a reason to laugh.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Joy is a flame which association alone can keep alive, and which goes  
out unless communicated.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

God has placed the genius of women in their hearts, because the works  
of this genius are always works of love.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Life is too short to spare an hour of it in the indulgence of this evil  
passion.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Time is a great ocean which, like the other ocean, overflows with our  
remains.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

God - but a word invoked to explain the world.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Soul of the universe, Sire, God, Creator, Lord, I believe in Thee, 'neath  
all these names: And without having need to hear thy word, In the sky's  
brow my glorious creed I trace.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Private passions grow tired and wear themselves out; political  
passions, never.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Hence life, as through a cloud, for me I see Vanish, and to the past's dark shade 'tis chas'd; As a grand image love remains to me-- Sole remnant of a dream, by morn effac'd.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

Reading furnishes the mind only with materials of knowledge; it is thinking that makes what we read ours. I am the fellow citizen of every being that thinks; my country is Truth.

~Alphonse de Lamartine

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