

# Bret Harte

## Quotes

*Men, Expression, Stories, Children, Writing, Half, Speak, Money, Swamps,  
Sticks, Mind, Bird, Drawing, Soldier, Cancer, Quality, Inspirational, Admiration,  
Darkness, Prayer*

The delicate thought, that cannot find expression,  
For ruder speech too fair,  
That, like thy petals, trembles in possession,  
And scatters on the air.

~Bret Harte

Don't be too quick  
To break bad habits: better stick,  
Like the Mission folk,  
To your arsenic.

~Bret Harte

A bird in the hand is a certainty,  
but a bird in the bush may sing.

~Bret Harte

The only sure thing about luck is that it will change.

~Bret Harte

Never a lip is curved with pain that can't be kissed into smiles again.

~Bret Harte

The creator who could put a cancer in a believer's stomach is above  
being interfered with by prayers.

~Bret Harte

If, of all words of tongue and pen,  
The saddest are, It might have been,  
More sad are these we daily see:  
'It is, but hadn't ought to be!'

~Bret Harte

Never a tear bedims the eye that time and patience will not dry.

~Bret Harte

The dominant expression of a child is gravity.

~Bret Harte

For the glory born of Goodness  
Never dies, And its flag is not  
half-masted  
In the skies.

~Bret Harte

Each lost day has its patron saint!

~Bret Harte

But still when the mists of doubt prevail, And we lie becalmed by the shores of age, We hear from the misty troubled shore The voice of children gone before. Drawing the soul to its anchorage.

~Bret Harte

It may be broadly stated that.....of all animals kept for the recreation of mankind the horse is alone capable of exciting a passion that shall be absolutely hopeless.

~Bret Harte

Which I wish to remark-- And my language is plain,-- That for ways that are dark And for tricks that are vain, The heathen Chineese is peculiar.

~Bret Harte

Thiar ain't no sense In gittin' riled!

~Bret Harte

Love differs from all the other contagious diseases: the last time a man is exposed to it, he takes it most readily, and has it the worst!

~Bret Harte

When folks find I ain't afeard to speak my mind on their affairs, they kinder guess I'm tellin' the truth about my own.

~Bret Harte

Your voices break and falter in the darkness, Break, falter, and are still.

~Bret Harte

Nobody shoulders a rifle in defense of a boarding house.

~Bret Harte

And then, for an old man like me, it's not exactly right,  
This kind o' playing soldier with no enemy in sight.

~Bret Harte

There is peace in the swamp, though the quiet is Death

~Bret Harte

One big vice in a man is apt to keep out a great many smaller ones.

~Bret Harte

But, when the goddess' work is done,  
The woman's still remains.

~Bret Harte

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