

C. V. Wedgwood Quotes

*History, Men, Heroism, Past, Spirit, School, Dust, Greatness, Retrospect, Artist,
Example, Politics, Knows, Way, Giving, Depressing, Eye, Knowledge, Moral,
Brain*

An educated man should know everything about something, and something about everything.

~C. V. Wedgwood

History is lived forwards but it is written in retrospect. We know the end before we consider the beginning and we can never wholly recapture what it was to know the beginning only.

~C. V. Wedgwood

Democracy, like the human organism, carries within it the seed of its own destruction.

~C. V. Wedgwood

Without the imaginative insight which goes with creative literature, history cannot be intelligibly written.

~C. V. Wedgwood

A nation does not create the historians it deserves; the historians are far more likely to create the nation.

~C. V. Wedgwood

International politics, by and large, are a depressing study.

~C. V. Wedgwood

historical research of the truly scholastic kind is not connected with human beings at all. It is a pure study, like higher mathematics.

~C. V. Wedgwood

We have more to learn today from the spectacle of a great man at a great moment than from any number of monographs on ancient wage levels.

~C. V. Wedgwood

The individual - stupendous and beautiful paradox - is at once

infinitesimal dust and the cause of all things.

~C. V. Wedgwood

Without passion there might be no errors, but without passion there would certainly be no history.

~C. V. Wedgwood

Discontent and disorder were signs of energy and hope, not of despair.

~C. V. Wedgwood

General knowledge may have to be slight or even amateurish knowledge, but it is none the less useful, and we discourage it at our peril.

~C. V. Wedgwood

Good writing is almost the concomitant of good history. Literature and history were joined long since by the powers which shaped the human brain; we cannot put them asunder.

~C. V. Wedgwood

For the truth is that men do not desire to be the Common Man any more than they are the Common Man. They need greatness in others and the occasion to discover the greatness in themselves.

~C. V. Wedgwood

History, in spite of the occasional protest of historians, will always be used in a general way as a collection of political and moral precedents.

~C. V. Wedgwood

It should be the historian's business not to belittle but to illuminate the greatness of man's spirit.

~C. V. Wedgwood

the independence of the artist is one of the great safeguards of the

freedom of the human spirit.

~C. V. Wedgwood

somewhere about the eighteenth century, history tacitly replaced religion as the school of public morals.

~C. V. Wedgwood

History being the record of human action is a richly variegated material, and it is not easy to give a true impression of the stuff by snipping off an inch or two for a pattern.

~C. V. Wedgwood

For the company of the great is good company as Shakespeare understood it, as Plutarch understood it. The past remains the source from which example and precept can still be drawn.

~C. V. Wedgwood

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