

James Payn Quotes

*Men, Mean, Thinking, Literature, Writing, People, Impossible, Boyhood, Stories,
Two, Mistake, Pieces, Oatmeal, Verses, Respect, Opportunity, Evil, Guides,
Hands, Example*

Nature of course is the best guide in the matter of choosing a pursuit.

~James Payn

A man with an invention on which he has spent his life, but has no means to get it developed for the good of humanity - or even patented for himself - must feel the pinch of poverty very acutely.

~James Payn

To the truly benevolent mind, indeed, nothing is more satisfactory than to hear of a miser denying himself the necessaries of life a little too far and ridding us of his presence altogether.

~James Payn

In all highly civilised communities Pretence is prominent, and sooner or later invades the regions of Literature.

~James Payn

The idea of bringing young people up to Literature is doubtless calculated to raise the eyebrows almost as much as the suggestion of bringing them up to the Stage.

~James Payn

A nobler example, because a less personal one, of the pinch of poverty, is when it prevents the accomplishment of some cherished scheme for the benefit of the human race.

~James Payn

The fact is, if a young man is naturally indolent, the spur of necessity will drive him but a very little way, while the having enough to live upon is often the means of preserving his self-respect.

~James Payn

For my part, I do not much believe in the predilections of boyhood.

~James Payn

A great philosopher has stated that the worst evil of poverty is, that it makes folks ridiculous; by which, I hope, he only means that, as in the above case, it places them in incongruous positions.

~James Payn

I never had a piece of toast particularly long and wide, But fell upon the sanded floor, And always on the buttered side.

~James Payn

Some Critics on the Hearth are not only good-natured, but have rather too high, or, if that is impossible, let us say too pronounced, an opinion of the abilities of their literary friends.

~James Payn

One forgives the critic - perhaps - but never the good-natured friend.

~James Payn

And what holds good of verse holds infinitely better in respect to prose.

~James Payn

For my part, I do not feel that the scheme of future happiness, which ought by rights to be in preparation for me, will be at all interfered with by my not meeting again the man I have in my mind.

~James Payn

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