

James Russell Lowell

Quotes

*Men, Heart, Literature, Life, Truth, Thinking, Past, Soul, Love, Giving, Eye,
Mind, Believe, Long, Genius, Inspirational, Spring, Time, Fall, Fate*

Books are the bees which carry the quickening pollen from one to another mind.

~James Russell Lowell

Fate loves the fearless.

~James Russell Lowell

The devil loves nothing better than the intolerance of reformers.

~James Russell Lowell

All the beautiful sentiments in the world weigh less than a single lovely action.

~James Russell Lowell

One thorn of experience is worth a whole wilderness of warning.

~James Russell Lowell

Light is the symbol of truth.

~James Russell Lowell

A weed is no more than a flower in disguise.

~James Russell Lowell

Compromise makes a good umbrella, but a poor roof.

~James Russell Lowell

The brain can be easy to buy, but the heart never comes to market.

~James Russell Lowell

Not what we give, but what we share, for the gift without the giver is bare.

~James Russell Lowell

Each day the world is born anew for him who takes it rightly.

~James Russell Lowell

It is right precious to behold
The first long surf of climbing light
Flood all the thirsty east with gold.

~James Russell Lowell

Truth, after all, wears a different face to everybody, and it would be too tedious to wait till all were agreed.

~James Russell Lowell

Sincerity is impossible, unless it pervade the whole being, and the pretence of it saps the very foundation of character.

~James Russell Lowell

Freedom is the only law which genius knows.

~James Russell Lowell

The snow had begun in the gloaming, and busily all the night had been heaping field and highway with a silence deep and white.

~James Russell Lowell

Thank God every morning when you get up that you have something to do that day, which must be done, whether you like it or not.

~James Russell Lowell

Endurance is the crowning quality, And patience all the passion of great hearts.

~James Russell Lowell

The question of common sense is always: 'what is it good for?' - a question which would abolish the rose and be answered triumphantly by the cabbage.

~James Russell Lowell

Folks never understand the folks they hate.

~James Russell Lowell

Blessed are they who have nothing to say and who cannot be persuaded to say it.

~James Russell Lowell

For men in earnest have no time to waste
In patching fig-leaves for the
naked truth.

~James Russell Lowell

The mind can weave itself warmly in the cocoon of its own thoughts,
and dwell a hermit anywhere.

~James Russell Lowell

Mishaps are like knives, that either serve us or cut us, as we grasp
them by the blade or the handle.

~James Russell Lowell

Our seasons have no fixed returns, Without our will they come and go;
At noon our sudden summer burns, Ere sunset all is snow.

~James Russell Lowell

New occasions teach new duties.

~James Russell Lowell

Once to every man and nation comes the moment to decide.

~James Russell Lowell

The dandelions and buttercups gild all the lawn: the drowsy bee
stumbles among the clover tops, and summer sweetens all to me.

~James Russell Lowell

No man is born into the world whose work
Is not born with him. There is

always work, And tools to work withal, for those who will; And blessed are the horny hands of toil.

~James Russell Lowell

Reputation is only a candle, of wavering and uncertain flame, and easily blown out, but it is the light by which the world looks for and finds merit.

~James Russell Lowell

The time is ripe, and rotten-ripe, for change... [Truth's] mirror is turned forward, to reflect The promise of the future, not the past.

~James Russell Lowell

New occasions teach new duties, time makes ancient good uncouth; They must upward still and onward, who would keep abreast of truth.

~James Russell Lowell

Time makes ancient good uncouth.

~James Russell Lowell

There is no better ballast for keeping the mind steady on its keel, and saving it from all risk of crankiness, than business.

~James Russell Lowell

The greater your real strength and power, the quieter it will be exercised.

~James Russell Lowell

Who's not sat tense before his own heart's curtain.

~James Russell Lowell

Metaphor is no argument, though it be sometimes the gunpowder to drive one home, and imbed it in the memory.

~James Russell Lowell

No man can produce great things who is not thoroughly sincere in dealing with himself.

~James Russell Lowell

And blessed are the horny hands of toil.

~James Russell Lowell

If we see light at the end of the tunnel, it's the light of the oncoming train.

~James Russell Lowell

Children are God's Apostles, sent forth, day by day, to preach of love, and hope, and peace.

~James Russell Lowell

So we're all right, an' I, for one, Don't think our cause'll lose in vally By rammin' Scriptur' in our gun, An' gittin' Natur' for an ally.

~James Russell Lowell

The green grass floweth like a stream Into the oceans's blue.

~James Russell Lowell

In the ocean of baseness, the deeper we get, the easier the sinking.

~James Russell Lowell

Who speaks the truth stabs falsehood to the heart.

~James Russell Lowell

There is no good in arguing with the inevitable. The only argument available with an east wind is to put on your overcoat.

~James Russell Lowell

Let us be of good cheer, however, remembering that the misfortunes hardest to bear are those which never come.

~James Russell Lowell

All God's angels come to us disguised.

~James Russell Lowell

Compromise makes a good umbrella, but a poor roof; it is temporary expedient, often wise in party politics, almost sure to be unwise in statesmanship.

~James Russell Lowell

The traitor to Humanity is the traitor most accursed; Man is more than Constitutions; better rot beneath the sod, Than be true to Church and State while we are doubly false to God.

~James Russell Lowell

As life runs on, the road grows strange with faces new - and near the end. The milestones into headstones change, Neath every one a friend.

~James Russell Lowell

A wise man travels to discover himself.

~James Russell Lowell

That best academy, a mother's knee.

~James Russell Lowell

The eye is the notebook of the poet.

~James Russell Lowell

There are two kinds of weakness, that which breaks and that which bends.

~James Russell Lowell

Reading enables us to see with the keenest eyes, to hear with the

finest ears, and listen to the sweetest voices of all time.

~James Russell Lowell

Not failure, but low aim, is crime.

~James Russell Lowell

In creating, the only hard thing is to begin: a grass blade's no easier to make than an oak.

~James Russell Lowell

There is nothing so desperately monotonous as the sea, and I no longer wonder at the cruelty of pirates.

~James Russell Lowell

Truth forever on the scaffold, Wrong forever on the throne,- Yet that scaffold sways the Future, and, behind the dim unknown, Standeth God within the shadow, keeping watch above his own.

~James Russell Lowell

The greatest homage we can pay to truth, is to use it.

~James Russell Lowell

The traitor to Humanity is the traitor most accurst.

~James Russell Lowell

Solitude is as needful to the imagination as society is wholesome for the character.

~James Russell Lowell

The idol is the measure of the worshipper.

~James Russell Lowell

The only faith that wears well and holds its color in all weathers is that which is woven of conviction and set with the sharp mordant of

experience.

~James Russell Lowell

To educate the intelligence is to expand the horizon of its wants and desires.

~James Russell Lowell

One day with life and heart Is more than time enough to find a world.

~James Russell Lowell

And what they dare to dream of, date to do.

~James Russell Lowell

The heart forgets its sorrow and ache.

~James Russell Lowell

Toward no crimes have men shown themselves so cold- bloodedly cruel as in punishing differences of belief.

~James Russell Lowell

Creativity is not the finding of a thing, but the making something out of it after it is found.

~James Russell Lowell

The gift without the giver is rare.

~James Russell Lowell

The path of nature is, indeed, a narrow one, and it is only the immortals that seek it, and, when they find it, do not find themselves cramped therein.

~James Russell Lowell

The foolish and the dead alone never change their opinions.

~James Russell Lowell

I don't believe in principle, but I do in interest.

~James Russell Lowell

They talk about their Pilgrim blood, their birthright high and holy! a mountain-stream that ends in mud thinks is melancholy.

~James Russell Lowell

Talent is that which is in a man's power; genius is that in whose power a man is.

~James Russell Lowell

I have always been of the mind that in a democracy manners are the only effective weapons against the bowie-knife.

~James Russell Lowell

The flowers or weeds that spring up tomorrow are in the seeds we sow today. The foolish and the dead alone never change their opinions.

~James Russell Lowell

I would hardly change the sorrowful words of the poets for their glad ones. Tears dampen the strings of the lyre, but they grow the tensor for it, and ring even the clearer and more ravishingly.

~James Russell Lowell

True scholarship consists in knowing not what things exist, but what they mean; it is not memory but judgment.

~James Russell Lowell

For only by unlearning Wisdom comes.

~James Russell Lowell

It is by presence of mind in untried emergencies that the native metal of man is tested.

~James Russell Lowell

True freedom is to share All the chains our brothers wear, And, with heart and hand, to be Earnest to make others free!

~James Russell Lowell

Whatever you may be sure of, be sure of this, that you are dreadfully like other people.

~James Russell Lowell

Pride and weakness are Siamese twins.

~James Russell Lowell

My gran'ther's rule was safer 'n 't is to crow: Don't never prophesy - onless ye know.

~James Russell Lowell

Sentiment is intellectualized emotion; emotion precipitated, as it were, in pretty crystals by the fancy.

~James Russell Lowell

Life is a sheet of paper white / Whereon each one of us may write / His word or two, and then comes night.

~James Russell Lowell

The thing we long for, that we are For one transcendent moment.

~James Russell Lowell

The nurse of full-grown souls is solitude.

~James Russell Lowell

Time is, after all, the greatest of poets; and the sons of Memory stand a better chance of being the heirs of Fame.

~James Russell Lowell

The better part of every man's education is that which he gives himself.

~James Russell Lowell

Democracy gives every man the right to be his own oppressor.

~James Russell Lowell

A sneer is the weapon of the weak.

~James Russell Lowell

He who is firmly seated in authority soon learns to think security, and not progress, the highest lesson in statecraft.

~James Russell Lowell

Fortune is the rod of the weak, and the staff of the brave.

~James Russell Lowell

As one lamp lights another, nor grows less, So nobleness enkindleth nobleness.

~James Russell Lowell

Good luck is the willing handmaid of upright, energetic character, and conscientious observance of duty.

~James Russell Lowell

In vain we call old notions fudge, And bend our conscience to our dealing; The Ten Commandments will not budge, And stealing will continue stealing.

~James Russell Lowell

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