

Maria Mitchell

Quotes

*Stars, Science, Book, People, Men, Travel, Space, Trying, Thinking, Soul,
Giving, World, Needs, Eye, Journey, Country, Exercise, Individual, Observation,
Broads*

There is no cosmetic for beauty like happiness.

~Maria Mitchell

We have a hunger of the mind which asks for knowledge of all around us, and the more we gain, the more is our desire; the more we see, the more we are capable of seeing.

~Maria Mitchell

Do not look at stars as bright spots only. Try to take in the vastness of the universe.

~Maria Mitchell

No woman should say, "I am but a woman!" But a woman! What more can you ask to be?

~Maria Mitchell

The world of learning is so broad, and the human soul is so limited in power! We reach forth and strain every nerve, but we seize only a bit of the curtain that hides the infinite from us.

~Maria Mitchell

Every formula which expresses a law of nature is a hymn of praise to God.

~Maria Mitchell

Besides learning to see, there is another art to be learned - not to see what is not.

~Maria Mitchell

We especially need imagination in science. Question everything.

~Maria Mitchell

I had only ordinary capacity but extraordinary persistency.

~Maria Mitchell

When we are chafed and fretted by small cares, a look at the stars will show us the littleness of our own interests.

~Maria Mitchell

The greatest object in educating is to give a right habit of study.

~Maria Mitchell

A young sailor boy came to see me to-day. It pleases me to have these lads seek me on their return from their first voyage, and tell me how much they have learned about navigation.

~Maria Mitchell

Why can a man not act himself, be himself, and think for himself? It seems to me that naturalness alone is power; that a borrowed word is weaker than our own weakness, however small we may be.

~Maria Mitchell

The eye that directs a needle in the delicate meshes of embroidery will equally well bisect a star with the spiderweb of the micrometer.

~Maria Mitchell

I am just learning to notice the different colors of the stars, and already begin to have a new enjoyment.

~Maria Mitchell

A sphere is made up of not one, but an infinite number of circles; women have diverse gifts, and to say that women's sphere is the family circle is a mathematical absurdity.

~Maria Mitchell

Yesterday I had a Shaker visitor, and today a Catholic; and the more I see and hear, the less do I care about church doctrines.

~Maria Mitchell

I was a little doubtful about the propriety of going to the Mammoth Cave without a gentleman escort, but if two ladies travel alone they must have the courage of men.

~Maria Mitchell

To read a book, to think it over, and to write out notes is a useful exercise; a book which will not repay some hard thought is not worth publishing.

~Maria Mitchell

People have to learn sometimes not only how much the heart, but how much the head, can bear.

~Maria Mitchell

But why look back at all? Why turn your eyes to your shadow, when, by looking upward, you see your rainbow in the same direction?

~Maria Mitchell

How strange that some people cannot believe in both the Book of Nature and the Book of God.

~Maria Mitchell

I would as soon put a girl alone into a closet to meditate as give her only the society of her needle.

~Maria Mitchell

The best that can be said of my life so far is that it has been industrious and the best that can be said of me is that I have not pretended to what I was not.

~Maria Mitchell

A traveller, lost on a desert plain, feels that the recognition of one star, the Pole star, is of itself a great acquisition.

~Maria Mitchell

I am always the better for open-air breathing, and was certainly meant for the wandering life of the Indian.

~Maria Mitchell

Nothing comes out more clearly in astronomical observations than the immense activity of the universe.

~Maria Mitchell

For women there are, undoubtedly, great difficulties in the path, but so much the more to overcome. First, no woman should say, "I am but a woman!" But a woman! What more can you ask to be?

~Maria Mitchell

I have worn myself thin trying to find out about this comet, and I know very little now in the matter.

~Maria Mitchell

I made observations for three hours last night, and am almost ill today from fatigue; still I have worked all day, trying to reduce the places, and mean to work hard again tonight.

~Maria Mitchell

The world of learning is so broad, and the human soul is so limited in power!

~Maria Mitchell

The love of one's own sex is precious, for it is neither provoked by vanity nor retained by flattery; it is genuine and sincere.

~Maria Mitchell

I saw, in looking over Cooper, elements of a comet of 1825 which resemble what I get out for this, from my own observations, but I cannot rely upon my own.

~Maria Mitchell

As a general rule, people disappoint you as you know them.

~Maria Mitchell

That knowledge which is popular is not scientific.

~Maria Mitchell

The phrase 'popular science' has in itself a touch of absurdity. That knowledge which is popular is not scientific.

~Maria Mitchell

The Southern character is opposed to haste. Safety is of more worth than speed, and there is no hurry.

~Maria Mitchell

There is something of the same pleasure in noticing the hues of the stars that there is in looking at a flower garden in autumn.

~Maria Mitchell

Small aids to individuals, large aid to masses.

~Maria Mitchell

I was born, for instance, incapable of appreciating music.

~Maria Mitchell

Let us secure not such books as people want, but books just above their wants, and they will reach up to take what is put out for them.

~Maria Mitchell

It is sad to see a woman sacrificing the ties of the affections even to do good.

~Maria Mitchell

Altogether, St. Louis is a growing place, and the West has a large hand and a strong grasp.

~Maria Mitchell

An English village could never be mistaken for an American one: the outline against the sky differs; a thatched cottage makes a very wavy line on the blue above.

~Maria Mitchell

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