

# Robert Peel

## Quotes

*Public Opinion, Government, Weakness, Police, People, Real, Political, Men,  
Becoming, Democracy, Acting, Agitation, Mean, Economy, Law, Numbers,  
Provocation, Facts, Policemen, Said*

Agitation is the marshalling of the conscience of a nation to mold its laws.

~Robert Peel

The police are the public and the public are the police.

~Robert Peel

Public opinion is a compound of folly, weakness, prejudice, wrong feeling, right feeling, obstinacy, and newspaper paragraphs.

~Robert Peel

In every village there will arise a miscreant to establish the most grinding tyranny by calling himself the people.

~Robert Peel

I never knew a man escape failures, in either mind or body, who worked seven days in a week.

~Robert Peel

No minister ever stood, or could stand, against public opinion.

~Robert Peel

The distinction of being without an honour is becoming a rare and valuable one and should not become extinct.

~Robert Peel

Of all the vulgar arts of government, that of solving every difficulty that might arise by thrusting the hand into the public purse is the most illusory and contemptible.

~Robert Peel

Can there be a more lamentable picture than that of a Chancellor of the Exchequer seated on an empty chest by a pool of bottomless deficiency fishing for a budget?

~Robert Peel

There seem to me to be very few facts, at least ascertainable facts, in politics.

~Robert Peel

But after this natural burst of indignation, no man of sense, courage, or prudence will waste his time or his strength in retrospective reproaches or repinings.

~Robert Peel

I have read all that has been written by the gravest authorities on political economy on the subject of rent, wages, taxes, tithes.

~Robert Peel

My belief is, from all that I have seen of the French people and their Government, that they are much more likely to presume upon our weakness than to take offence at our strength.

~Robert Peel

The Reform Bill has destroyed the ancient conduits and strainers, and brings Public Opinion to act upon the government with the rapid, turbulent, and uncertain violence of a flood!

~Robert Peel

However much I have been blamed for not showing more deferences to a great party, and for not acting more steadily on party principles, all I have to regret is that I showed so much.

~Robert Peel

Much is said about English severity, but not a word about Irish provocation.

~Robert Peel

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