

William Gilmore Simms Quotes

*Men, Eye, Criticism, Virtue, Grateful, Character, Vanity, Answers, Ambition,
World, Action, Pay, Philosophy, Soul, Children, Gunpowder, Fear, Law,
Recovery, Pride*

The only true source of politeness is consideration.

~William Gilmore Simms

Stagnation is something worse than death. It is corruption, also.

~William Gilmore Simms

Genius is the very eye of intellect and the wing of thought; it is always in advance of its time, and is the pioneer for the generation which it precedes.

~William Gilmore Simms

The proverb answers where the sermon fails.

~William Gilmore Simms

He who would acquire fame must not show himself afraid of censure. The dread of censure is the death of genius.

~William Gilmore Simms

It should console us for the fact that sin has not totally disappeared from the world, that the saints are not wholly deprived of employment.

~William Gilmore Simms

The true law of the race is progress and development. Whenever civilization pauses in the march of conquest, it is overthrown by the barbarian.

~William Gilmore Simms

It is a bird-flight of the soul, when the heart declares itself in song. The affections that clothe themselves with wings are passions that have been subdued to virtues.

~William Gilmore Simms

The dread of criticism is the death of genius.

~William Gilmore Simms

Our true acquisitions lie only in our charities - we gain only as we give.

~William Gilmore Simms

I believe that economists put decimal points in their forecasts to show they have a sense of humor.

~William Gilmore Simms

No errors of opinion can possibly be dangerous in a country where opinion is left free to grapple with them.

~William Gilmore Simms

I listen to them freely and with all the respect merited by their intelligence, their character, their knowledge, reserving always my incontestable right of criticism and censure.

~William Gilmore Simms

The effect of character is always to command consideration. We sport and toy and laugh with men or women who have none, but we never confide in them.

~William Gilmore Simms

The only rational liberty is that which is born of subjection, reared in the fear of God and the love of man.

~William Gilmore Simms

Solitude bears the same relation to the mind that sleep does to the body. It affords it the necessary opportunities for repose and recovery.

~William Gilmore Simms

The fool is willing to pay for anything but wisdom. No man buys that of which he supposes himself to have an abundance already.

~William Gilmore Simms

Tears are the natural penalties of pleasure. It is a law that we should

pay for all that we enjoy.

~William Gilmore Simms

Most men remember obligations, but not often to be grateful; the proud are made sour by the remembrance and the vain silent.

~William Gilmore Simms

Distinction is an eminence that is attained but too frequently at the expense of a fireside.

~William Gilmore Simms

Vanity is so constantly solicitous of self, that even where its own claims are not interested, it indirectly seeks the aliment which it loves, by showing how little is deserved by others.

~William Gilmore Simms

No doubt solitude is wholesome, but so is abstinence after a surfeit. The true life of man is in society.

~William Gilmore Simms

Our cares are the mothers, not only of our charities And virtues, but of our best joys and most cheering and enduring pleasures.

~William Gilmore Simms

Our possessions are wholly in our performances. He owns nothing to whom the world owes nothing.

~William Gilmore Simms

Neither praise nor blame is the object of true criticism. Justly to discriminate, firmly to establish, wisely to prescribe and honestly to award - these are the true aims and duties of criticism.

~William Gilmore Simms

There is a native baseness in the ambition which seeks beyond its

desert, that never shows more conspicuously than when, no matter how, it temporarily gains its object.

~William Gilmore Simms

Philosophy is reason with the eyes of the soul.

~William Gilmore Simms

There is no doubt such a thing as chance, but I see no reason why Providence should not make use of it.

~William Gilmore Simms

Not in sorrow freely is never to open the bosom to the sweets of the sunshine.

~William Gilmore Simms

We must calculate not on the weather, nor on fortune, but upon God and ourselves. He may fail us in the gratification of our wishes, but never in the encounter with our exigencies.

~William Gilmore Simms

The birth of a child is the imprisonment of a soul.

~William Gilmore Simms

To make punishments efficacious, two things are necessary. They must never be disproportioned to the offence, and they must be certain.

~William Gilmore Simms

Modesty is policy, no less than virtue.

~William Gilmore Simms

Philosophy has its bugbears, as well as superstition.

~William Gilmore Simms

Have I done anything for society? I have then done more for myself. Let

that question and truth be always present to thy mind, and work without cessation.

~William Gilmore Simms

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