

THE JUDGMENT OF HISTORY

“...those who rather pursue posthumous fame do not consider that the men of after-time will be exactly such as those whom they cannot bear now.”

...Marcus Aurelius



I WANT TO THANK ALL THE LITTLE PEOPLE—

“Omnis fama a domesticis emanat.” (All fame proceeds from servants.)

...Francis Bacon



TEAM PLAYERS

“Man has dallied with the idea of a social conscience, and has disguised the fear of the herd as loyalty towards the group.”

...E.M. Forster



TELL IT TO BILLY GRAHAM

“Souls are not saved in bundles.”

...Ralph Waldo Emerson



AS EVERYBODY KNOWS—

“Whenever you wish to assert something completely false, always preface it with the statement: ‘There can be no possible doubt’ or ‘It is universally admitted that.’”

...Baron Bulwer-Lytton



DON'T ASK QUESTIONS, JUST DO IT!

“...so take the lively air,/And, lovely, learn by going where to go.”

...Theodore Roethke



LOOK AT RUDY GIULIANI

“It is in defeat that we become Christian.”

Father Rinaldi in A Farewell to Arms



TODAY WE DUB IT HARD-NOSED

“There is petrification of the understanding; and also of the sense of shame...mortification of the sense of shame and modesty we go so far as to dub strength of mind!”

...Epictetus



THE TROUBLE WITH THE REFORM PARTY

“For heads that are disposed unto Schism and complexionally propense to innovation, are naturally indisposed for a community, nor will be ever confined unto the order or œconomy of one body; and therefore, when they separate from others, they knit but loosely among themselves; nor contented with a general break or dichotomy with their Church do subdivide and mince themselves almost into Atoms.”

...Sir Thomas Browne



THE TROUBLE WITH “SAVING PRIVATE RYAN”...

“Nothing is worse than a bad poem which was intended to be great.”

...*W.H. Auden*



ATT: GEORGE W. BUSH...

“It is no great feat to burn a little man. It is a great achievement to persuade him.”

...*Erasmus of Rotterdam*



IRMA ROMBAUER NOTWITHSTANDING...

“Writing sentences is difficult whatever their subject. It is no less difficult to write sentences in a recipe than sentences in *Moby-Dick*. So you might as well write *Moby-Dick*.”

...*Annie Dillard*



ARBEIT, TOO, MACHT FREI...

“Obedience to the law is freedom.”

...Commanding General

(Sign over the gate of the Fort Dix stockade, where peace criminals were confined during the Vietnam days. War criminals were housed in the Pentagon, the White House, the Rand Corporation, and so on.)



ON BEING ASKED, AT 92, THE MEANING OF LIFE...

“The only thing I’m confident of is a blank piece of paper.”

...Al Hirschfeld, caricaturist



HENRY KISSINGER IN A NUTSHELL...

“Consider how the beginning of all Thought worth the name is Love: and the wise head never yet was, without first the generous heart.”

...Thomas Carlyle



ON SELF-REGULATION BY BUSINESS AND OTHER
BUREAUCRACIES...

“If associations to control burglary and murder were tolerated we should take it for granted that the members should all be burglars and murderers.”

...*George Bernard Shaw*



THE THEORY OF EVOLUTION, SAY...

“When a man is told something he doesn’t know, he almost always thinks it’s a lie.”

...*Charles Willeford*



WHY YOU AND I NEVER RAN FOR PRESIDENT

“The farmer imagines power and place are fine things. But the President has paid dear for his White House. It has commonly cost him all his peace, and the best of his manly attributes.”

...*Ralph Waldo Emerson*



JOHN STUART MILL WAS A WUSS

“I have as little respect, Sir, for a fighting nation as I have for a fighting individual.”

...John Stuart Mill



WHY WE ARE WINNING THE WAR ON DRUGS

“They are not skilful considerers of human things who imagine to remove sin by removing the matter of sin...Though ye take from a covetous man all his treasure he has yet one jewel left, ye can not bereave him of his covetousness. Banish all objects of lust, shut up all youth into the severest discipline that can be exercised in any hermitage, ye can not make them chaste, that came not thither so...a dram of well-being should be preferred before many times as much the forcible hindrance of evil-doing. For God sure esteems the growth and completing of one virtuous person, more than the restraint of ten vicious.”

...John Milton



ON FOREIGN ENTANGLEMENTS...

“As for the wars which were anciently made on the behalf of a kind of party, or tacit conformity of estate, I do not see how they may be well justified: as when the Romans made a war for the liberty of Grecia; or when the Lacedaemonians and Athenians made wars to set up

or pull down democracies and oligarchies; or when wars were made by foreigners, under the pretence of justice or protection, to deliver the subjects of others from tyranny and oppressions; and the like.”

...Sir Francis Bacon

