

PART TWO

THE TRIP

CHAPTER 5

Some books are to be tested, others to be swallowed, and some few to be chewed and digested; that is, some books are to be read only in parts; others to be read but not curiously; and some few to be read wholly, and with diligence and attention. Some books also may be read by deputy, and extracts made of them by others.

. . . FRANCIS BACON
Essays: Of Studies

EXTRACTS

(Supplied by an Armchair Traveller)

It will be seen that this mere painstaking armchair traveller appears to have scarcely begun to investigate all the wondrous references to travel that might be garnered in all the long Vaticans and street stalls of the earth, where might be picked up allusions without number to this thing called travel. Such is the fate of the armchair traveller. Therefore you must not sob, like a child in the chimney, to find your pet remark on travel not among these extracts which have value solely as they afford a glancing bird's eye view of what has been promiscuously said, thought, fancied and sung regarding travel by a random selection of commentators on the art.

"To travel, to move around - that's the thing. No matter where."

Richard Bissell

"Oh, nothing ." He laughed and jumped to his feet. "Come on."
"Where?" said Pooh.

"Anywhere," said Christopher Robin.

A. A. Milne

"During that memorable month I basked in the happiness of being for once in my life drifting with the tide of a great popular movement. Everybody was going to Europe - I, too, was going to Europe."

Mark Twain

"A Day's Ride a Life's Romance was the excellent title of an unsuccessful book; and indeed the journey should march with the day, beginning and ending with its sun, to be the complete thing, the golden round required of it. This makes that mind and body fare together, hand in hand, sharing the hope, the action, the fruition; finding equal sweetness in the languor of aching limbs at eve, and in the first god-like intoxication of motion with braced muscle in the sun. For walk or ride take the mind over greater distances than a throbbing whirl with stiffening joints and cramped limbs through a dozen countries."

Kenneth Grahame

"O sir! you had then left unseen a wonderful piece of work which not to have been blessed withal would have discredited your travel."

Shakespeare

"O how I long to travel back,
And tread again that ancient track!
That I might once more reach that plain,
Where first I left my glorious train;
From whence th' enlightened spirit sees
The shady City of palm-trees."

Henry Vaughan

"I do not want Michael Angelo for breakfast - for luncheon - for tea - for supper - for between meals."

Mark Twain

"Lump the whole thing! say that the Creator made Italy from designs by Michael Angelo."

Mark Twain

"They spell it Vinci and pronounce it Vinchy; foreigners always spell better than they pronounce."

Mark Twain

"For my part, I travel not to go anywhere, but to go. I travel for travel's sake. The great affair is to move."

Robert Louis Stevenson

"Though we travel the world over to find the beautiful we must carry it with us or we find it not."

Ralph Waldo Emerson

"Travel, in the younger sort, is a part of education; in the elder, a part of experience. He that travelleth into a country before he hath some entrance into the language, goeth to school, and not to travel."

Francis Bacon

"To travel hopefully is a better thing than to arrive,
and the success is to labour."

Robert Louis Stevenson

I traveled among unknown men
In lands beyond the sea;
Nor, England! did I know till then
What love I bore to thee.

William Wordsworth

"A man who has not been in Italy, is always conscious of an inferiority."

Samuel Johnson

"A traveller! I love his title. A traveller is to be revered as such.
His profession is the best symbol of our life. Going from--- toward---;
it is the history of every one of us. I am interested in those who travel
at night."

Henry David Thoreau

"As an English man does not travel to see English
men, I retired to my room."

Laurence Sterne

Boswell: Is not the Giant's-Causeway worth seeing?
Johnson: Worth seeing? yes; but not worth going to see.

James Boswell

"Travelling is the ruin of all happiness! There's no looking at a building
here after seeing Italy."

Fanny Burney

"Captain is a good travelling name, and so I take it."

George Farquhar

"I love the looks of you, the lure of you,
I'd love to make a tour of you;
The arms, the eyes, the mouth of you,
The east, west, north and the south of you."

Cole Porter

The Road goes ever on and on,
 Down from the door where it began.
 Now far ahead the Road has gone,
 And I must follow, if I can,
 Pursuing it with weary feet,
 Until it joins some larger way,
 Where many paths and errands meet.
 And whither then? I cannot say.
 Still round the corner there may wait
 A new road or a secret gate;
 And though I oft have passed them by,
 A day will come at last when I
 Shall take the hidden paths that run
 West of the Moon, East of the Sun.

J. R. R. Tolkien

"Our limbs, indeed, have room enough, but it is our souls that rust in a corner. Let us migrate interiorly without intermission, and pitch our tent each day nearer the western horizon."

Henry David Thoreau

Christopher, Christopher, where are you going,
 Christopher Robin?
 "Just to the top of the hill,
 Upping and upping until
 I am right to the top of the hill,"
 Said Christopher Robin

Christopher, Christopher, why are you going,
 Christopher Robin?
 There's nothing to see, so when
 You've got to the top, what then?
 "Just down to the bottom again,"
 Said Christopher Robin.

A. A. Milne

"There's nothing under Heaven so blue
 That's fairly worth the travelling to."

Robert Louis Stevenson

"The Excursion is ended, and has passed to its place among the things that were. But its varied scenes and its manifold incidents will linger pleasantly in our memories for many a year to come. Always on the wing, as we were, and merely pausing a moment to catch fitful glimpses of the wonders of half a world, we could not hope to receive or retain vivid impressions of all it was our fortune to see. Yet our holiday flight has not been in vain - for above the confusions of vague recollections, certain of its best prized pictures lift themselves and will continue perfect in tint and outline after their surroundings shall have faded away."

Mark Twain

"No, Sir, when a man is tired of London, he is tired of life; for there is in London all that life can afford."

Samuel Johnson

"Edward Dahlberg," she says, "says that the only reason we travel is that there is no place to go... That's pretty cute, Dahlberg, but you probably don't even go to the supermarket. I go to the supermarket and it's a Trip."

Richard Bissell, 1968

"Ay, now am I in Arden; the more fool I. When I was at home I was in a better place; but travellers must be content."

William Shakespeare

"The open road, the dusty highway, the heath, the common, the hedgerows, the rolling downs! Camps, villages, towns, cities! Here to-day, up and off to somewhere else to-morrow! Travel, change, interest, excitement! The whole world before you, and a horizon that's always changing!"

Kenneth Grahame

"I pity the man who can travel from Dan to Beersheba and cry, 'tis all barren."

Laurence Stern

"We did not see any buffalos until we passed a station called Brady Island. It was a relief to see the long looked for animals at last, for only those who have felt it can understand what a dreadful thing it is to want to see a buffalo and not be able to do so."

J. W. Boddam-Wertham

If Paris is much in your mind, if it is more and more to you, Concord is less and less, and yet it would be a wretched bargain to accept the proudest Paris in exchange for my native village. At best, Paris could only be a school in which to learn to live here, a stepping stone to Concord, a school in which to fit for this university. I wish to live ever as to derive my satisfactions and inspirations from the commonest events, every-day phenomena, so that what my senses hourly perceive, my daily walk, the conversations of my neighbors, may inspire me, and I may dream of no heaven but that which lies about me. A man may acquire a taste for wine or brandy, and so lose his taste for water, but should we not pity him? The sight of a marsh hawk in Concord meadows is worth more to me than the entry of the allies into Paris. In this sense I am not ambitious. Only that travelling is good which reveals to me the value of home and enables me to enjoy it better. That man is richest, whose pleasures are cheapest.

Henry David Thoreau

"Since my trips have been extensive everywhere,
I've become a much wiser gal;
For I've noticed that expensive underwear,
Can improve a gal's morale.

Cole Porter

"Seeing Scotland, Madam, is only seeing a worse England."

Samuel Johnson

"I tell you what we'll do, Stubbins: it's a game I used to play when I was young - before Sarah came to live with me. I used to call it Blind Travel. Whenever I wanted to go on a voyage, and I couldn't make up my mind where to go, I would take the atlas and open it with my eyes shut. Next I'd wave a pencil, still without looking, and stick it down on whatever page had fallen open... Because you have to swear, before you begin, that you will go to the place the pencil touches, come what may. Shall we play it?"

Hugh Lofting

I think there is a fatality in it - I seldom go to the place I set out for.

Laurence Sterne

"All the geeks blowing about their gicky LSD trips ought to take some of them grown-up pills one day and go on a real trip, like, man, to Alkali Flats, man, like the horned toads all on the hard stuff and the psychedelic rattlesnakes making out with the barrel cacti."

Richard Bissell

As the Spanish proverb says, 'He, who would bring home the wealth of the Indies, must carry the wealth of the Indies with him.' So it is in travelling; a man must carry knowledge with him, if he would bring home knowledge.

Samuel Johnson

Dr. Doolittle: "But what about your studies? You can't very well just take off and leave your university career to take care of itself, you know."

Bumpo : "I shall not be neglecting my edification if I accompany you. . . . My August father, the king, told me to be sure and travel plenty. To see the world in your company is an opportunity not to be sneezed upon. No, no, indeed."

Hugh Lofting

"Farewell, Monsieur Traveller: look you lisp and wear strange suits, disable all the benefits of your own country, be out of love with your nativity, and almost chide God for making you that countenance you are, or I will scarce think you have swam in a gondola."

William Shakespeare

"We all stood in the vast theatre of ancient Ephesus, and had our picture taken. We looked as proper there as we would anywhere, I suppose. We do not embellish the general desolation of the desert much. We add what dignity we can to a stately ruin with our green umbrellas and jackasses, but it is little. However, we mean well."

Mark Twain

"The Sentimental Traveller
 (meaning thereby myself) who
 have travell'd, and of which I
 am now sitting down to give an
 account - as much out of
 necessity and the besoin de
voyager, as anyone in the class."

All Laurence Sterne

"Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry and
 narrow-mindedness, and many of our
 people need it sorely on those accounts.
 Broad, wholesome, charitable views of
 men can not be acquired by vegetating in
 one little corner of the earth all one's
 lifetime."

Mark Twain

"I am afraid to travel much or to famous places, lest it might completely
 dissipate the mind. Then I am sure that what we observe at home, if we
 observe anything, is of more importance than what we observe abroad.
 The far-fetched is of the least value. What we observe in travelling are
 to some extent the accidents of the body, but what we observe when
 sitting at home are, in the same proportion, phenomena of the mind itself.
 A wakeful night will yield as much thought as a long journey. If I try
 thoughts by their quality, not their quantity, I may find that a restless
 night will yield more than the longest journey."

Henry David Thoreau

"Traveling is soothing to the harried nerves and
 sometimes numbing to the brain. The way things
 are, a good numb brain once in a while isn't a bad
 lookout."

Richard Bissell, 1968