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Rousseau and David Widger**

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Title: Quotes and Images From The Confessions of Jean Jacques Rousseau

Author: Jean-Jacques Rousseau

Editor: David Widger

Release date: August 28, 2004 [EBook #7555]

Most recently updated: December 30, 2020

Language: English

Credits: Produced by David Widger

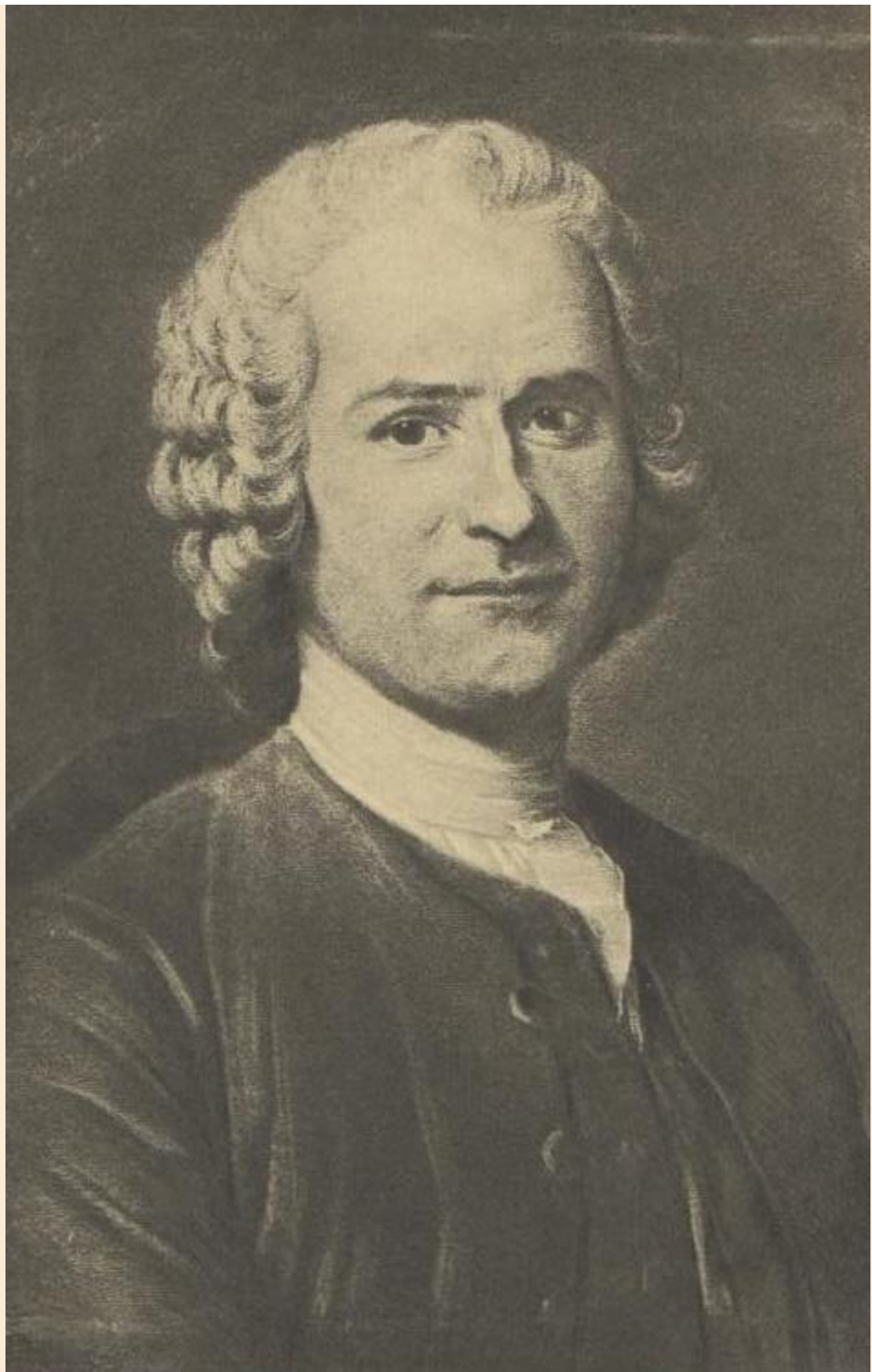
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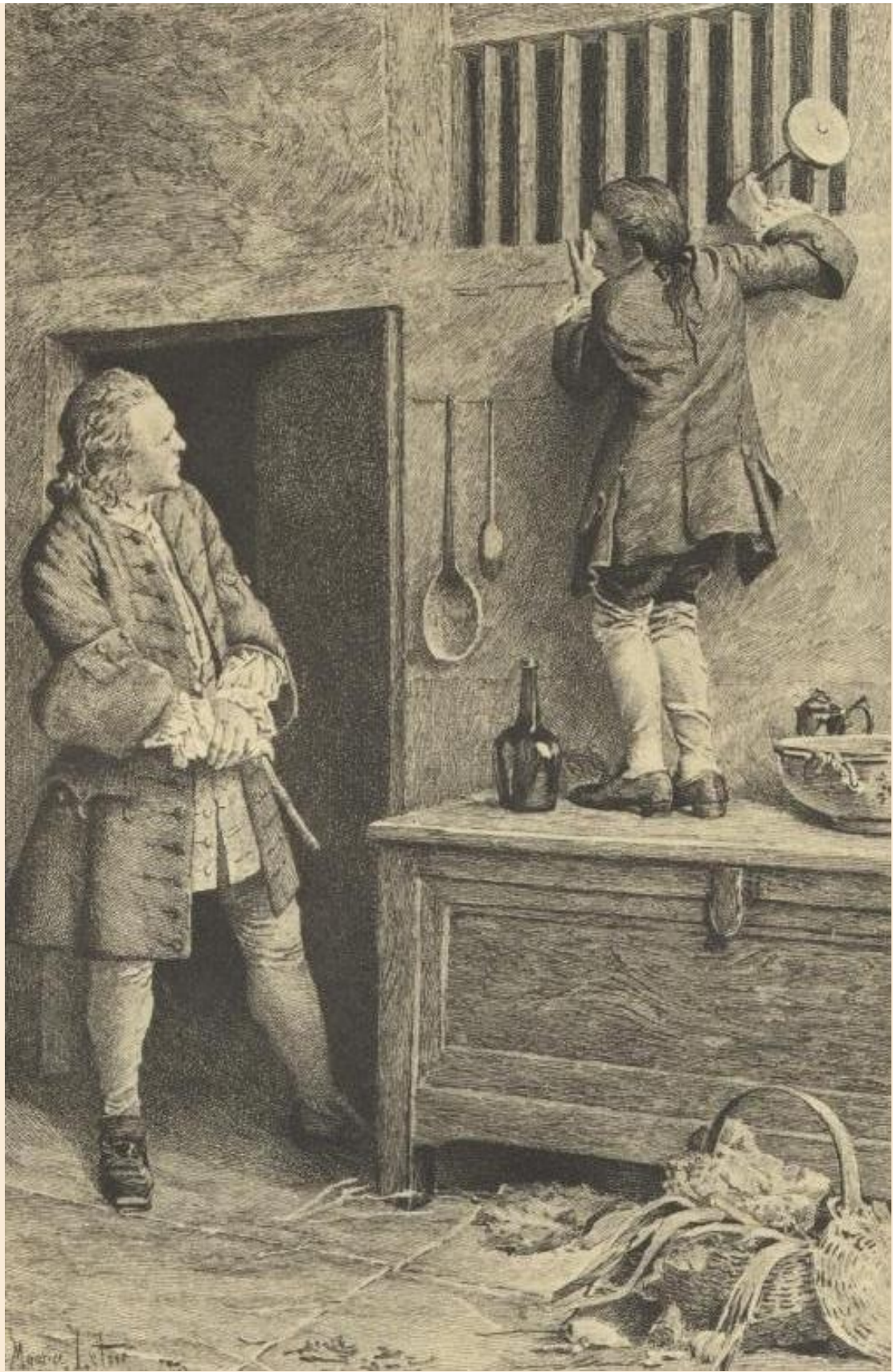
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# **CONFESSIONS OF ROUSSEAU**

**By Jean Jacques Rousseau**





Stealing an Apple



The Laboratory



The Hermitage

*A feeling heart the foundation of all  
my misfortunes*

*A religion preached by such  
missionaries must lead to paradise!*

*A subject not even fit to make a priest  
of*

*A man, on being questioned, is  
immediately on his guard*

*Adopted the jargon of books, than the  
knowledge they contained*

*All animals are distrustful of man, and  
with reason*

*All your evils proceed from yourselves!*

*An author must be independent of  
success*

*Ardor for learning became so far a  
madness*

*Aversion to singularity*

*Avoid putting our interests in  
competition with our duty*

*Being beat like a slave, I judged I had  
a right to all vices*

*Bilboquet*

*Catholic must content himself with the  
decisions of others*

*Caution is needless after the evil has  
happened*

*Cemented by reciprocal esteem*

*Considering this want of decency as an  
act of courage*

*Conversations were more serviceable  
than his prescriptions*

*Degree of sensuality had mingled with  
the smart and shame*

*Die without the aid of physicians*

*Difficult to think nobly when we think  
for a livelihood*

*Dine at the hour of supper; sup when I  
should have been asleep*

*Disgusted with the idle trifling of a  
convent*

*Dissembler, though, in fact, I was only  
courteous*

*Dying for love without an object*

*Endeavoring to hide my incapacity, I  
rarely fail to show it*

*Endeavoring to rise too high we are in  
danger of falling*

*Ever appearing to feel as little for  
others as herself*

*Finding in every disease symptoms  
similar to mine*

*First instance of violence and  
oppression is so deeply engraved*

*First time in my life, of saying, "I  
merit my own esteem"*

*Flattery, or rather condescension, is  
not always a vice*

*Force me to be happy in the manner they  
should point out*

*Foresight with me has always embittered  
enjoyment*

*Hastening on to death without having  
lived*

*Hat, only fit to be carried under his  
arm*

*Have the pleasure of seeing an ass ride  
on horseback*

*Have ever preferred suffering to owing*

*Her excessive admiration or dislike of  
everything*

*Hold fast to aught that I have, and yet  
covet nothing more*

*Hopes, in which self-love was by no  
means a loser*

*How many wrongs are effaced by the  
embraces of a friend!*

*I never much regretted sleep*

*I strove to flatter my idleness*

*I never heard her speak ill of persons  
who were absent*

*I loved her too well to wish to possess  
her*

*I felt no dread but that of being  
detected*

*I was long a child, and am so yet in  
many particulars*

*I am charged with the care of myself  
only*

*I only wished to avoid giving offence*

*I did not fear punishment, but I  
dreaded shame*

*I had a numerous acquaintance, yet no  
more than two friends*

*Idea of my not being everything to her*

*Idleness is as much the pest of society  
as of solitude*

*If you have nothing to do, you must  
absolutely speak continually*

*In the course of their lives frequently  
unlike themselves*

*In company I suffer cruelly by inaction*

*In a nation of blind men, those with  
one eye are kings*

*Indolence, negligence and delay in  
little duties to be fulfilled*

*Indolence of company is burdensome  
because it is forced*

*Injustice of mankind which embitters  
both life and death*

*Insignificant trash that has obtained  
the name of education*

*Instead of being delighted with the*

*journey only wished arrival*

*Is it possible to dissimulate with  
persons whom we love?*

*Jean Bapiste Rousseau*

*Knew how to complain, but not how to  
act*

*Law that the accuser should be confined  
at the same time*

*Left to nature the whole care of my own  
instruction*

*Less degree of repugnance in divulging  
what is really criminal*

*Letters illustrious in proportion as it  
was less a trade*

*Loaded with words and redundancies*

*Looking on each day as the last of my  
life*

*Love of the marvellous is natural to  
the human heart*

*Make men like himself, instead of  
taking them as they were*

*Making their knowledge the measure of  
possibilities*

*Making me sensible of every deficiency*

*Manoeuvres of an author to the care of  
publishing a good book*

*Men, in general, make God like  
themselves*

*Men of learning more tenaciously retain  
their prejudices*

*Mistake wit for sense*

*Moment I acquired literary fame, I had  
no longer a friend*

*Money that we possess is the instrument  
of liberty*

*Money we lack and strive to obtain is  
the instrument of slavery*

*More stunned than flattered by the  
trumpet of fame*

*More folly than candor in the  
declaration without necessity*

*Multiplying persons and adventures*

*My greatest faults have been omissions*

*Myself the principal object*

*Necessity, the parent of industry,  
suggested an invention*

*Neither the victim nor witness of any  
violent emotions*

*No sooner had lost sight of men than I  
ceased to despise them*

*No longer permitted to let old people  
remain out of Paris*

*Not so easy to quit her house as to*



*enter it*

*Not knowing how to spend their time,  
daily breaking in upon me*

*Nothing absurd appears to them  
incredible*

*Obliged to pay attention to every  
foolish thing uttered*

*Obtain their wishes, without permitting  
or promising anything*

*One of those affronts which women  
scarcely ever forgive*

*Only prayer consisted in the single  
interjection "Oh!"*

*Painful to an honest man to resist  
desires already formed*

*Passed my days in languishing in  
silence for those I most admire*

*Piety was too sincere to give way to  
any affectation of it*

*Placing unbounded confidence in myself  
and others*

*Prescriptions serve to flatter the  
hopes of the patient*

*Priests ought never to have children—  
except by married women*

*Proportioned rather to her ideas than  
abilities*

*Protestants, in general, are better  
instructed*

*Rather bashful than modest*

*Rather appeared to study with than to  
instruct me*

*Read the hearts of others by  
endeavoring to conceal our own*

*Read description of any malady without  
thinking it mine*

*Read without studying*

*Remorse wakes amid the storms of  
adversity*

*Remorse sleeps in the calm sunshine of  
prosperity*

*Reproach me with so many contradictions*

*Return of spring seemed to me like  
rising from the grave*

*Rogues know how to save themselves at  
the expense of the feeble*

*Satisfaction of weeping together*

*Seeking, by fresh offences, a return of  
the same chastisement*

*Sin consisted only in the scandal*

*Slighting her favors, if within your  
reach, a unpardonable crime*

*Sometimes encourage hopes they never  
mean to realize*

*Substituting cunning to knowledge*

*Supposed that certain, which I only  
knew to be probable*

*Taught me it was not so terrible to  
thieve as I had imagined*

*That which neither women nor authors  
ever pardon*

*The malediction of knaves is the glory  
of an honest man*

*The conscience of the guilty would  
revenge the innocent*

*There is nothing in this world but time  
and misfortune*

*There is no clapping of hands before  
the king*

*This continued desire to control me in  
all my wishes*

*Though not a fool, I have frequently  
passed for one*

*To make him my apologies for the  
offence he had given me*

*True happiness is indescribable, it is  
only to be felt*

*Trusting too implicitly to their own  
innocence*

*Tyranny of persons who called  
themselves my friends*

*Virtuous minds, which vice never  
attacks openly*

*Voltaire was formed never to be (happy)*

*We learned to dissemble, to rebel, to  
lie*

*What facility everything which favors  
the malignity of man*

*When once we make a secret of anything  
to the person we love*

*When everyone is busy, you may continue  
silent*

*Whence comes it that even a child can  
intimidate a man*

*Where merit consists in belief, and not  
in virtue*

*Whole universe would be interested in  
my concerns*

*Whose discourses began by a  
distribution of millions*

*Wish thus to be revenged of me for  
their humiliation*

*Without the least scruple, freely  
disposing of my time*

*Writing for bread would soon have  
extinguished my genius*

*Yielded him the victory, or rather  
declined the contest*

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