

NAPOLEON IN HIS OWN WORDS

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649002146

Napoleon in his own words by Jules Bertaut

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

JULES BERTAUT

**NAPOLEON IN
HIS OWN WORDS**

NAPOLEON IN HIS OWN WORDS



NAPOLEON

In His Own Words

FROM THE FRENCH OF
JULES BERTAUT

*Translated by Herbert Edward Law
and Charles Lincoln Rhodes*

Authorized Edition



UNIVERSITY OF
CALIFORNIA

CHICAGO
A. C. McCLURG & CO.

1916

CONTENTS

	PAGE
Author's Preface	ix
Translators' Preface	xxi
The Character of Napoleon	xxv
CHAPTER	
I On Success	1
II Psychology and Morals	11
III Love and Marriage	28
IV Things Political	35
V Concerning the Fine Arts	66
VI Administration	81
VII Concerning Religion	107
VIII War	116
IX Sociology	140
Notes	149



AUTHOR'S PREFACE

THIS collection of Napoleonic aphorisms is not the first attempt of the kind that has been made. The genius of Napoleon has always challenged the attention of historians, as it has that of the unpretending curious and lovers of strong and beautiful maxims; and following the Restoration, as after the rebirth of Imperialism under Napoleon III, there were those who diligently collected these odds and ends of the Emperor's thoughts. However, if this attempt to popularize these reflections of genius is not entirely new, I do not think any other has been undertaken with the same care and candor.

We are now sufficiently distant from Napoleon to judge him with the dispassionateness of an age appreciative, but careful to do justice. And just because there is little concerning this great man which is not now known, we are able to classify in a system-

Napoleon in His Own Words

atic way the products of his mind. Without attempting a too rigid classification, therefore, I have attempted to present the diverse aspects of the Napoleonic mentality, and to view him successively in his character of professor of psychology and morals, of politics and administration; as an authority on love and marriage; as a patron of the arts; as a soldier and as a sociologist.

The first thing that strikes one in reading these thoughts, these sentiments, these maxims, is the constant concern for sovereign authority which they reveal.

Napoleon, in imagination, was constantly concerned with the good of his subjects. Whether in his literary works, properly so called, or in his immense correspondence or in his conversation or in his public speeches or in his St. Helena confidences, he has taken occasion to express himself on a multitude of problems touching religion, science, morals, art, politics and sociology. And always he does it as a sovereign, as a master conscious of his authority, obsessed with the weight of his extraordinary responsibility and of the duty that devolved upon him.

Only rarely is his attention swerved from